



April 21, 2024

Church Rising

Part Three: Deepening Our “In”

Acts 2:42-47

Review

Highland *rising* with Jesus into greater vitality

All In! Checklist of **Time** (Sun AM/see below), **Talent** (Drummer Boy Offering), **Treasure** (Give Something)

The ecosystem of Highland Lake

“Up”: Pressing intentionally into Prayer

Today: deepening our “In”

The Vital Connection Between Authentic Relationship and Practical Care

Acts 2:42-47: “as any had need” & “attending temple and breaking bread in homes”

Principle: we better care for those we know and love: instinctual, accountable, measured

The problems with “care by program”: not nuanced, unsustainable, exploitable, etc.

Sometimes “programmatic” approaches are necessary: see distribution for widows in Acts 6:1-6

Application at Highland

Baseline “All In”: relationships form on Sunday Mornings: good but limited

We can increase our relational depth by overlapping layers of “second touchpoints”

Bible study, small group, duos or triads, friendship gathering, serving team, occasional fellowship events

This second touchpoint network in a small church is best when rising up organically

Either direct/general invitations (we can assist in communication): flexible posture, do not cost the church \$

Video interview: the model of the Gelzers’ small group

Varied ever-morphing texture, with room for newcomers to join in

The greater this network of relational second touchpoints, the better our care net

In addition, the Congregational Care Team: our version of the Acts 6 Table Servers

Sunday Morning Gathering Ways to Help: Greeters (see Jeff), Welcome Team (see Cindy), Ushers (see Julie), Livestream (see Louise), Sound (see Andrew), Projection (see Louise), Counters (see Andrew), Leadership (see Kirk), Children’s Worship (see Jenny), Nursery (see Jenny), Big Idea (see Jeff), Music (see Tony), Scripture Reading (see Louise), Testimony (see Jeff), Host Role (see Rod), Communion Preparation (see Carol), Refreshments (see Nelma), Sanctuary Spruce-Up (see Louise), Second Hour Electives (see Jeff), Second Hour Children (see Louise), Second Hour Nursery (see Louise), Sanctuary Decor (see Jeff), Pray for Needs (see Jeff), Heritage Lounge Fireplace (see Jeff), What other ideas might you have to offer our Sunday Morning Gathering?