

NEW BEGINNINGS MOTIONS
Joint Session & Deaconate Meeting
March 17, 2015

1. We will celebrate that through the intentional process of New Beginnings 100+ people came together for six weeks, prayed together and reflected together about our church's purpose and mission. Through this, relationships were born and /or deepened. Deeping our relationships is a valuable investment in our shared ministry and resources. A celebration will take place in April 2015 and the results of these motions will be shared.
2. We accept that the majority of small groups voiced that this is not the time for a "Mission Redefinition" of our congregation as it has been defined in the New Beginnings process.
3. Because we, as a congregation, do not want to "do nothing," the Session and the Board of Deacons recommit ourselves to smaller changes, especially those that will make better use of our resources (people, time, building, money) for the sharing of God's love within and beyond this congregation. Moving forward we as a church will intentionally focus on:
 - Seeking God's mission for our church through prayer together
 - Spiritual formation of this congregation and building disciples
 - Training and development of lay leaders
 - Building connectedness within the congregation
 - Reviewing all new and existing programs for their sustainability, our passion and energy for them, and alignment with the goals above.
4. The ideas recorded in the New Beginnings process are to be divided among the ministries (as presented in the attached matrix) for further prayer and discernment. Each ministry shall report back to the congregation in August 2015 and February 2016 concerning action or inaction on them. These reports will be publicized and available to any and all.
5. An idea will become a "Big idea" (a possible new initiative) when seven congregational participants come forward and commit their own time, passion and energy to its sustainability.

AND

6. We commit to giving "Big Ideas" prime time on the agendas of appropriate ministries or boards for consideration. It is appropriate for boards and ministries to be about blessing, funding, praying for and clearing the way so that Big Ideas can come to fruition through the power of the Holy Spirit and the work of the people.