

Hi Pastor Lois and Council Members;

Here are some of my thoughts on the upcoming Implications Wheel series.

I'm sure that there may be a question or two that will emerge tonight. Please carefully collect the questions and the Welcoming Community team and I will work to answer them and resolve any concerns you may have.

**Goals and outcomes for the series:**

- 1) To deeply engage the congregation in thinking and discussing the May 2003 vote on blessings. What are the potential implications – possible opportunities and challenges that this may bring the congregation.
- 2) To identify potential activities, events, education programs that may assist the congregation during the next seven months of contemplation.
- 3) To provide information that will assist the leadership of Gloria Dei to best guide the congregation through this period of contemplation.

**Preparation:**

Prior to the series beginning, I will work with the Welcoming Community team and any other interested parties to brainstorm a list of potential first order events. These will be divided up and used by the groups during the sessions. New first orders can be added at anytime and we'll work on those at the sessions as well.

My thoughts are to facilitate the three sessions in the following way. Tracy will introduce the series with "why" we are doing the series and then I will do a brief introduction to the process. I have asked Mary Sage and 3 to 4 members of my firm to assist us in working with the small groups during sessions 1 & 2.

Finally, I have told the Welcoming Community team that we will need to purchase materials for the sessions. I am guessing that 30 to 40 people may participate per session, creating 6 to 8 small groups. Each group will need markers, post-its and a I-Wheel poster to fill out. The posters are \$10 each x 8 groups x 2 sessions = \$160 plus approximately \$40 worth of markers and post-its. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> session we will work off of worksheets that I will print up and copy at church.

**Agendas for Sessions 1 & 2:**

The first two sessions will begin with a brief introduction to the I-wheel process. (5-10 mins)

Then each table will be sent up to work on one "quarter wheel" which contains two first order implications and they fill in the second and third orders. (25-30 mins.)

Then we'll debrief quickly for 5 mins. This does not have to be long, as I would like to leave all of the quarter wheel posters up for the next few weeks to keep people talking and thinking about the topic.

**Agenda for Session 3:**

I am assuming that this agenda will emerge from the discussions and conversations from sessions 1& 2. The third session will focus on the learnings from the I-Wheels and from the discussions that have occurred over the past 3 weeks. We can discuss challenging or disconcerting potential implications and how we can work to avoid or lessen their impact. And we will discuss positive potential implications that we want to have happen which we can work to make occur.

**Wrap-up and next steps:**

I will prepare a summary of the high potential implications and the possible actions that are collected during session 3 so that the Council and the Welcoming Community team can use them in planning things that may need to be done before May.

Finally, I have attached a 2-page introduction to the I-Wheel process that I used last winter to explain the I-Wheel process.

Again, please collect any concerns and suggestions you may have for the Welcoming Community team and me and we will address them in the next week.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

In Christ,

Mo Fahnestock