

Church Growth Practicum

DECEMBER 7-8, 2019



Most churches want to grow, but haven't figured out how.

Too many Seventh-day Adventist churches in North America are experiencing little or no growth, and an alarming number of congregations are actually declining. Pastors and church leaders are growing increasingly frustrated trying to find new ways to grow their church.

The Church Growth Practicum (Part 1) on December 7-8, in Pocatello (meeting location will be announced), is designed for pastors and church boards to discuss proven church growth principles with experienced practitioners. Along with the presentations, there will be time for church teams to process and develop strategies to implement in their context.

This inspirational practicum is limited to the first seven churches who register. In order to attend, the pastor and a majority of the church board must be willing to attend both sessions (Saturday and Sunday).

The first session will be held on Sabbath, December 7, from 4 to 9pm. The practicum will continue with the second session on Sunday, December 8, from 9am to 1pm. Materials and meals will be provided, and lodging will be provided for those outside the commuting radius.

For more information or to register, contact Idaho Conference at (208) 375-7524, or email don.klinger@idconf.org.



Church Growth Practicum

SEMINAR TOPICS

Each presentation includes a time of worship, team exercises and times of prayer.

Need for Change

There is a crisis brewing throughout North America. Despite our best efforts, an overwhelming majority of churches are not growing. If something doesn't change soon, a number of our churches will cease to exist. Is there something that can be done to reverse this downward spiral? This presentation will take an honest look at what is happening in our conference and our churches. How can we be faithful to the command of Jesus to fulfill the Gospel Commission in our territory?

Discovering and Living Our Purpose

Let's take a brief look at our core values and honestly assess what is really driving the church today: worship. Many people are surprised to discover almost all churches are worship-centered. This presentation will lead people to embrace God's purpose for the church and begin to expose them to a new paradigm where mission should be the core of a church's activity.

Growing God's Kingdom is God's Command

This session will reaffirm from scripture that it is God's will to grow His church and He will bless us as we commit and surrender our churches to Him for that purpose. The most distinguishing characteristic of the early church was numerical and spiritual growth. We believe every church should be a healthy growing church and Idaho Conference is ready to partner with any congregation that is ready to grow.

Partners for Growth

Through an initiative called **Partners for Growth**, Idaho Conference seeks to establish a partnership with any congregation who is, first and foremost, committed to fulfilling the Gospel Commission by becoming an outwardly focused, healthy church. Learn more about the responsibilities and benefits of this unique partnership in this presentation.

Creating a Climate for Growth

Growth doesn't just happen, it is a result of setting the right priorities and aligning everything a church does with that vision. In this session, we will look at the common characteristics of Adventist churches that are growing.

Only Healthy Churches Really Grow

Why do some churches not grow in spite of doing evangelism? All healthy living things naturally grow. If our church is not growing, there is a cause. This session will discuss eight characteristics of healthy churches and six biotic principles of church growth. You will be introduced to "Natural Church Development."

Keep Them Coming

We have to shift our church growth strategy from a culture of membership to a culture of discipleship. Many new members leave the church shortly after being baptized. Often we blame evangelism, but the real problem is the way we do church. Independent of evangelism, many visitors show up at an Adventist Church, but don't find anything to draw them back? What are some practical things we can do to keep new members (and visitors) coming to church?

Eastern Idaho, December 7-8 2019