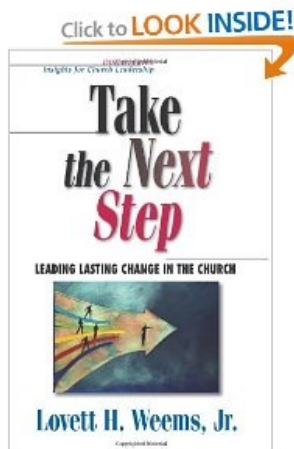


Preparation Notes  
Discernment and Planning Team  
UMC

(This work will require 8-10 hours and collaboration among the team.)

1. Called To Action
  - a. Review the United Methodist Call To Action Website <http://umccalltoaction.org/the-challenge>
    - i. Watch Weems video – UMC Realities
    - ii. Click on and read Steering Team Report – Executive Report, pages 6-9 **only**
  - b. **Identify three to five key points you as leaders need to consider/confront/challenge**
2. Take the Next Step – a book by Lovett Weems
  - a. Purchase and Read



ISBN # 0-687-02084-0

Publication Date: **October 2003** | Series: **Discoveries : Insights for Church Leadership**

Learn how to work for genuine and effective change in your church without trying to throw out everything that has gone before.

Pastors and other congregational leaders are eager to institute meaningful and effective change in their congregations. They know that old attitudes and perspectives prevent the church from fulfilling its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Yet too often church advocates insist that if genuine change is to occur in the church, then everything must change. The board must be wiped clean, and new technologies, new worship styles, and even new theologies must replace what has come before.

The problem with such calls for radical change, says Lovett Weems, Jr., is that they are not true to the way that genuine and lasting change takes place. Like every other organization, churches rest on a cultural foundation of shared assumptions, values, and practices. The paradox of successful change is that this foundation is at the same time the source of resistance to change and what makes change possible. Lasting, transformational

change grows out of the congregation's current sense of its story and its mission. Transformational leaders know how to build on the church's identity, making new ministries and emphasizes the natural extension of what has gone before. In other words they know how to make the story of change the next chapter in the book of the congregation's life, rather than throwing the book away and trying to start over.

An astute student of management and leadership theory, Weems offers congregational leaders essential insights into how they can work with and through their churches' ministries to bring about authentic and faithful growth.

**b. Identify 8-10 key points for you in ministry now!**

3. Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI)

a. Take Jung Typology Test See Human Metrics @ [www.humanmetrics.com](http://www.humanmetrics.com) – look to the left side of the web page.

**b. Be prepared to share any new learning or something that validates “who you are.”**

4. Exploring your Spiritual Gifts

a. Spiritual gifts are not our talents or skills. They are the grace of God at work within us.

b. Discover your gifts today and bring with you.

5. <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts>

5. Friedman's Theory of Differentiated Leadership Made Simple

a. Watch on youtube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgdcljNV-Ew> only six minutes long

**b. What key learning did you discover about triangling?**

c. As an option, read the following articles:

i. The Well Differentiated Leader <http://onmovements.com/?p=584>

ii. Self Differentiation: An Essential Attitude for Healthy Leadership [http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh\\_articles/345\\_self\\_differ\\_essential\\_healthy\\_church.html](http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh_articles/345_self_differ_essential_healthy_church.html)

6. Lewis Leadership Update May 4, 2011 – Denominations Face Major Reset <http://www.churchleadership.com/Updates/110504Update.asp>
  - a. Read short article
  - b. **Please identify pledges and/or giving of those 70 and above. What percent of your congregation's budget does this represent? What is your congregations death tsunami?**
  
7. Congregational Identity
  - a. Read Your church's creation story [http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2009/090304\\_article.html](http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2009/090304_article.html)
  - b. See also About Mafair Church – see video on right side of web page <http://www.mafairumc.org/p/about-mafair-umc.html>
  - c. **Create your congregations creation/founding story in 300-500 words, weaving in Biblical references where meaningful**
  - d. Take pictures of church facility and surrounding community. Create a handout for the congregation and community to read.
  
8. Bring with you to the workshop on Feb 1 & 2, 2013 the following:
  - a. Call to Action – key challenges
  - b. *Take the Next Step* – your learning notes
  - c. MBTI learning – your reflections
  - d. YOUR spiritual gifts inventory results
  - e. What have you learned about self differentiation?
  - f. Be ready to share your creation story and your local community and facility pictures.

## **9. Directions for completing homework assignments**

- a. **Complete items 1-5 as an individual**
- b. **Complete item 6b. by key financial person or Treasurer**
- c. **Complete item 7 as a small group of willing volunteers who are interested in Cedar Bluff UMC history and culture**