

What People Are Saying

VCI has ignited the church in looking forward to the future in ministry in the Quitman area. It is sparking ideas by members of the congregation in new ways to reach the community for Christ.

Dr. Dick White

Encourages you to look outside the box. Thus far it has been a journey of discovery with hope for positive changes at the end.

Debbie Eng, Fair Haven UMC

It has been a healthy experience for our church family and for me personally, as we have explored what it is to be a vibrant church. The evaluation process brought with it a period of anxiousness and the subsequent prescriptions have brought a sense of hopefulness as we move into God's future. As we begin to live into the prescriptions, it is obvious that this is hard work, but good work, and we are thankful for the opportunity.

Rev. Ricky Ricks

It brought new energy, strengthened my faith to be more sensitive to Holy Spirit and (is) renewing my relationship with God.

Saulo Ramales, Fair Haven UMC

“Every church knows that its mandate is to “Go and make disciples,” but not every church has a plan to make it happen.”

~ Dan Glover, *Deepening Your Effectiveness*

How do we get started?

Step 1 The pastor and some people from your church get together and prayerfully consider if your church is willing to investigate a process of renewal.

Step 2 The pastor contacts the District Superintendent to bring the DS into the discernment conversation with the pastor and leaders from the church.

Step 3 The District Superintendent recommends the church to the Center of Congregational Development for inclusion in the next group in your area.

Things to Know

Multiple congregations meet together once a month during the eight-month Leadership Development phase of VCI.

VCI brings congregations together for shared experiences.

The bulk of the expense for this process is absorbed by the Conference.

The financial commitment of a congregation is based on a sliding scale.

Want more info?

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vibrantchurch
I N I T I A T I V E



Center for
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Texas Conference of the
United Methodist Church

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The Vibrant Church Initiative (VCI) launches congregations into a new way of being and doing church. It is an ongoing process for renewal that is “custom fit” for each congregation and their mission field.

1 Leadership Development

Leadership Development

The centerpiece of VCI is leadership development for clergy and laity. This eight-month, small-group experience involves in-depth reading and mutual support. It empowers pastors and laity with tools which help develop strategies and skills for congregational revitalization.

2 Church Consultation

Church Consultation

Congregations that step beyond phase one of Leadership Development will engage in a weekend consultation. A team of trained consultants will meet with the pastor, staff, and laity for an in-depth analysis. The consulting team will present five prescriptions for change that will promote congregational growth and health. If the church votes to adopt the prescriptions, they start a 12 to 18 month process of implementation.

3 Coaching Assistance

Coaching Assistance

Coaching has proven to be essential as leaders and congregations journey through change. VCI utilizes various styles of coaching for the Pastor and the Leadership Team to assist them during each phase of the process. During the initial eight-month leadership development phase, a VCI coach works directly with the pastor. A Directive Coach is assigned to assist the congregation and the pastor through the 12 to 18 month prescription implementation phase.