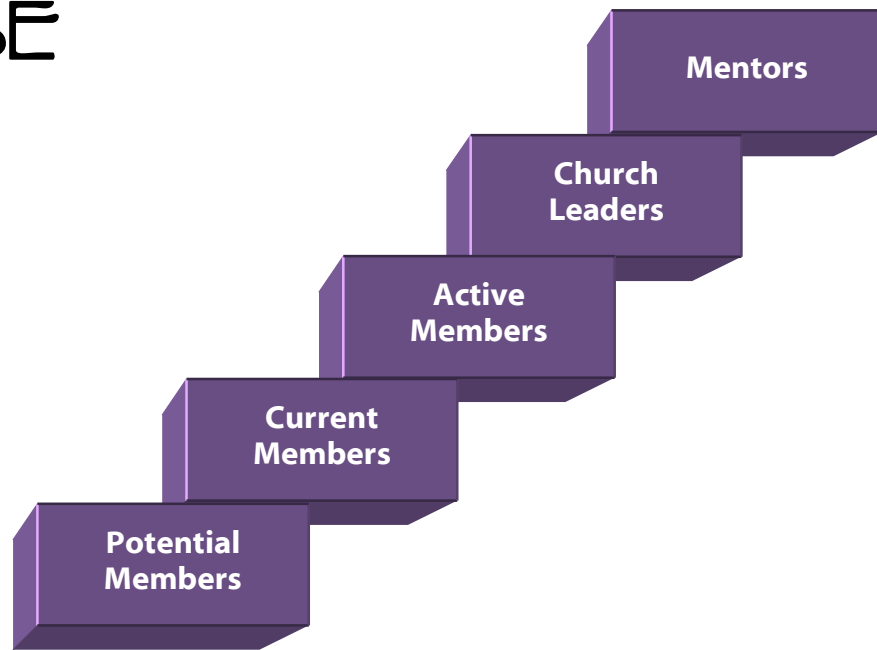


# LIGHTHOUSE



## What is Lighthouse?

Lighthouse will be a working committee at Smithfield United Methodist Church focused on member development and interaction. The task is multi-dimensional beginning with the development of programs to attract new members to the church and getting current members more actively involved through increased participation in the various work areas of the church. The charge continues with grooming active members for leadership roles, and then encouraging former leaders to assume the role of mentor, acting as advisor and providing counsel to current leaders.

## What resources are available?

The Chairperson of Lighthouse has a seat on the Church Leadership Team and may draw resources from the other work areas of the church...N.O.W, Trustees, Finance, Staff-Parish Relations, etc. Lighthouse can also draw upon the resources of UMM, UMW, UMYF, Music Ministries, and the church population at large.

## How is Lighthouse organized?

Lighthouse is responsible to the church Leadership Team. Twelve members, one serving as the chairperson, are nominated by the Leadership Team and approved by the Church Council. To the extent that it is possible and practical, the members will consist of representation of UMW, UMM, Discovery School, Music Ministries, Scouting Liaisons, the various Adult Sunday School Classes, and at-large members.

Each member will serve a 3 year term. With 12 members there will be three classes, each consisting of 4 members so each year, one third of the membership will rotate off.

## What are some examples of how Lighthouse might work?

- Find ways to attract new members by reaching out to those organizations that are already routinely using the church for other activities.
  - Sponsor an appreciation event for Discovery School, like a “meet and greet” with the parents, provide volunteer help during certain school events, etc.
  - Reach out to the various scouting organizations that use the church. Example: Sponsor a pot luck dinner prior to one of their awards ceremonies where most of the parents are in attendance.
  - Use Vacation Bible School and Harvest Festival as a conduit for reaching out to the community.
  - Develop programs to enhance the overall “visitor experience”.
    - Greeter programs.
    - Readily available information about the church.
    - Follow-up programs.
- Sponsor activities tailored strictly for new members:
  - Occasional “new member” dinners/socials with ACTIVE participation by church leaders so the new members can get to know the leaders, who they are, what they are responsible for, etc.
  - Occasional classes on being a Methodist for those new to the Methodist denomination. (How is the church structured? What does “connectional” mean? What are apportionments?)
- Find ways to get current members more actively involved by specifically asking them to help out with Lighthouse projects (to begin with). By becoming more active, in any way, they show off their skills and become more evident for future opportunities to serve on a committee or in some other area.
- Develop promotional campaigns to get more people attending Sunday School, UMW, UMM, UMYF, TGIW, Music Ministries, etc.
- Develop more fellowship programs to pull the church together into a social setting...picnics, pot luck dinners, ice cream socials, bike rides, game nights, etc.
- Sponsor regular Christian formation activities...educational classes, seminars, retreats, etc.
- Actively seek out those in the church with past leadership experience to serve as mentors to the current leaders.