



What is New Beginnings?

New Beginnings is a process that helps churches answer one question:

“What is God calling our congregation to do and be in this time and this place?”

Why New Beginnings?

New Beginnings helps churches choose their future, instead of letting it get chosen for them.

New Beginnings does not force change on a congregation. It provides the information, the process, and the training to help members and leaders come together and make wise and realistic decisions about the future.

How does New Beginnings work?

The process is three phases and usually takes six to eight months.

Phase I is an on-site assessment: building inspection, financial review, tour of the community, meeting with the pastor and moderator, and an Appreciative Inquiry with congregational leaders. After the assessment the church receives a report detailing the churches resources, demographic strengths, and potential for vital ministry.

Phase II provides training for eight to twelve key leaders within the church. These individuals learn to interpret the assessment report and prepare them to guide the congregation through a discernment process.

In Phase III the key leaders that received training in Phase II conduct small group meetings, moving the congregation toward a “big picture” decision about what God is calling the church to do and be and this time and place.

How do we get involved in New Beginnings?

Contact the Congregational Assessment, Support and Advancement Ministry of the United Church of Christ: 866.822.8224 ext. 3837 or newbeginnings@ucc.org.

Learn more at www.ucc.org/new-beginnings.