

Best Practices: An approach that focuses on continual learning and continual improvement.

Not static. Evaluates the standard operating plans and looks to see how to make it better. Not one prescribed way to do it.

Churches often are accepting of the status quo. God accepts our efforts.

We are kind to one another's efforts. Other institutions like medicine, education, sales, business, etc. do a better job at this.

Churches are places of forgiveness and kindness and keeping people happy... We've always done it this way!! Or everybody does it this way

Plumb line: what is possible that might work better. How do we tweak this? Do we evaluate programs that are repeated yearly?

What could be more likely to achieve desired results? More effective? Maybe with less effort? Should be discontinued?

Greeting new people

Sign up for mission trip

Newsletters

Continuous learning about how we do the work?

Think of one thing in your congregation that may be a place for improvement. What could change to make it better? How might that be accomplished?

Appreciative Inquiry a process, a philosophy, to build on what is working, what's good

Often we start by trying to analyze the problem, what's wrong, what needs to be fixed...

People in group create a menu of what they view as important, good aspects of an initiative.

Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative

Excessive focus on dysfunction may cause systems to become worse or fail.

Be positive, tell the good story about the event or program...without being a Pollyanna.

Discover

Dream

Design

Deploy or implement

Build and rebuild

Mediocrity, status quo, good enough, so-so "averageness", ordinariness, commonplace, poorness

If we are doing what we can, God accepts our offering, our presentation...It's what is in our hearts that counts.

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