

Church Revitalization Task Force

Report to the 39th General Assembly



Ken Priddy
Team Leader

Church Revitalization Report

The members of the 2018-2019 Church Revitalization GO Center Team are Bob Stauffer, Bill Senyard, Bill Rasch, Bruce Allison, and Ken Priddy, who is the Team Leader.

Strategy and Objective

The EPC's statement of mission says, "We exist to carry out the **Great Commission** of Jesus as Presbyterian, Reformed, Evangelical, and Missional congregations" (emphasis added). Foundational to the strategy and objectives of the Church Revitalization GO Center is implementing this Commission through EPC pastors and members. "Missional ministry" is inspired and informed by the Great Commission. The GO Center objective is "to support missional pastors who develop missional leaders who lead missional congregations as we seek the lost and disciple true worshipers."

Roadmap to Missional Vitality

A key development in the work of the GO Center in the past year was the release of "Roadmap to Missional Vitality." Because much of church revitalization is change management, a colleague recommended that Ken Priddy check out PROSCI, a global leader in organizational change management. Priddy completed PROSCI training and is now a PROSCI Certified Change Manager. Learnings from that training were incorporated into the "Roadmap," which features five key markers:

1. Awareness – Self-discovery (Assessment with Summary Report)
2. Desire – Motivation (Teaching/Study)
3. Knowledge – Skill training (Onsite/Online events)
4. Ability – Implementation (Action on the field with coaching)
5. Reinforcement – Evaluation (Accountability/Adjustment)



See Appendix A for “Roadmap to Missional Vitality.”

Church Revitalization Training

The following are current GO Center church revitalization training offerings:

X-52: Great Commission Skills for Pastors. Online training in six critical areas for pastors. This training empowers pastors not simply to *send* people into mission, but to *lead* people into mission.

The Leadership Ladder: Developing Missional Leaders in the Church. On-site or online leadership development. It will help pastors champion and lead missional ministry in their church.

G.O.1: Building Your Church’s Great Commission Matrix. On-site training for pastors, leaders, and church members to ignite and develop a Great Commission ministry that impacts its community.

Second Missional Journey. An opportunity for churches who have previously engaged with the GO Center. Evaluate where you are in the process of revitalization and chart the best way forward.

Mentoring presbytery revitalization coaches

GO Center leadership is working to multiply itself with GO Center Coordinators and Coaches in each presbytery. To date, 12 presbyteries have identified Coordinators, a significant number of leaders have completed coach training, and many are serving on the field as coaches. These revitalization leaders meet annually with GO Center leaders for equipping, encouragement, and networking. Throughout the year they are mentored online or by on-site visits. See Appendix B for a listing of Coordinators and Coaches.

Other Go Center Training

1. Transitional Ministry

Recent history has indicated that the transition time between pastors can be an excellent opportunity for a church to engage in revitalization. For this reason, the GO Center has developed training in transitional ministry. That training is now in two tracks: 1. Introduction to Transitional Ministry, and 2. Transitional Ministry Training. This training has been offered as part of the Leadership Institute at the 2018 General Assembly, and on February 22-24, 2019, at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Havertown, Pennsylvania. It also will be an offering at the 2019 General Assembly Leadership Institute.



2. Millennials

Take Heart YZ—A gospel-focused discipleship/spiritual formation curriculum designed by Millennials for Millennials. On-site and online training is available for pastors, small group facilitators, and young adult leadership.

Gospel App—Similar to Take Heart YZ, this on-site and online training for pastors, small group facilitators, and adult leaders features 14 video-driven lessons and two workbooks. More info is available at www.gospel-app.com.

3. Workplace

GO Business: The Great Commission @ Work for helping on-site lay leaders and church members see their workplace as a mission field. GO Business empowers Christians in the workplace to engage the workplace through a missionary lens and prepares them to seek opportunities to bear witness.

EPC Church Revitalization Task Force Members:

TE Ken Priddy (Team Leader), Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic

TE Jeff Moore, Presbytery of the Rivers and Lakes

TE Bill Rasch, Presbytery of the Midwest

TE Bill Senyard, Presbytery of the West

TE Bob Stauffer, Presbytery of the Alleghenies

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Priddy
Team Leader

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APPENDIX A

The ROADMAP to Missional Vitality: Markers, Checkpoints & Checklists

Marker 1: Awareness/Self-Discovery – Pre-Training/Investigating Vitalization

Checkpoints: Develop & Implement a Prayer Plan (+ *Vitalizing Prayer 1* with James Banks)
Read & Study *WITH* by Skye Jethani (or an alternate book for spiritual renewal)
Complete the TruPoint™ Assessment Process
 Assessment Tools for Data Gathering
 S.W.A.T. & G.R.A.C.E. Analyses for Data Interpretation
 Assessment Conference for Findings & Recommendations
MAKE THE DECISION TO VITALIZE!

Marker 2: Desire/Motivation – Pre-Training/Preparing for Vitalization

Checkpoints: Mobilize GO Leader Team (GLT)
 Pastor/Pastoral Staff
 Elders/Officers
 Key Ministry Leaders: Direction-Setters/Decision-Makers
Conduct Four Leadership Dynamics for Vitalization (4LDV) Seminar
 Ministry of the Word
 Ministry of Prayer
 Leading through High Support
 Leading through High Challenge
Select & Mobilize the Vision Team to Lead the Vitalization Initiative
Recruit & Mobilize Prayer Teams to Support the Vision Team
Lead the Congregation through *Questing for God's Heart* Campaign*

Marker 1/Marker 2 Checklist:

Prayer Plan Developed & Implemented
Reading & Study of *WITH* (or alternate) Completed
TruPoint™ Assessment Completed & Processed
Assessment Conference w/GO Center Completed
Decision to VITALIZE Made
GO Leader Team Mobilized & Four Leadership Dynamics for Vitalization Seminar Held
Vision Team Selected & Mobilized
Prayer Teams Recruited & Mobilized
Questing for God's Heart Campaign* Completed

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Marker 3: Knowledge/Skill-Training – In-Training/Training for Vitalization

Checkpoints: Host a GO Center *Church Vitality Weekend*:
FRI Evening: Leader Conference – GO Leader Team, Vision Team, Prayer Teams
SAT Full Day: G.O.1. Training Seminar – All Congregation
SUN Morning: Preach/Teach by GO Center

Note: Additional Training (to be dispersed throughout Markers 4 & 5)

Vitalizing Prayer 2 with James Banks
Reaching & Mobilizing Millennials with Bill Senyard
Fundamentals of Cross-Cultural Ministry with Tong Park
X-52: Great Commission Skills for Pastors with Ken Priddy
The Leadership Ladder: Developing Missional Leaders in the Church (for GLT) w/ K Priddy
GO Business: The Great Commission @ Work with Ken Priddy
Assimilation Basics with Jeremy Malick

Marker 3 Checklist:

Hosted a GO Center *Church Vitality Weekend*:
FRI Evening: Leader Conference
SAT Full Day: G.O.1. Training Seminar
SUN Morning: Preach/Teach by GO Center

Marker 4: Ability/Implementation – Post-Training/Building Vitalization

Checkpoints: GO Leader Team – Lead the Congregation through *50 Days to Vitality*.
GO Leader Team – Complete *Leadership Ladder* Training.
Vision Team – Use the NOW WHAT? section of the G.O.1 Manual to plan an Implementation Timeline.
Vision Team – Use COACHWORKS! as an ongoing guide to implementing G.O.1. training.
Prayer Teams – Organize and mobilize ongoing prayer through the process.
GO Leader Team & Vision Team: Develop and execute a comprehensive strategic plan of ongoing communication to show and generate support and buy-in for the vitalization process in general and the work of the Vision Team in particular.
Pastor(s) – Complete *X-52 Great Commission Skills for Pastors* training.
GO Leader Team & Vision Team: Host *GO Business: The Great Commission @ Work* with the GO Center.

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Marker 4 Checklist:

- Completed *50 Days to Vitality*
- Completed *Leadership Ladder* Training
- Completed *Vitalizing Prayer 2* Training
- Completed *Reaching & Mobilizing Millennials* Training
- Completed *Fundamentals of Cross-Cultural Ministry* Training
- Planned an Implementation Timeline
- Completed *COACHWORKS!* Implementation
- Prayer Team supported the process in prayer
- Gained congregational support & buy-in with communication
- Pastor(s) completed *X-52* Training
- Hosted *GO Business: The Great Commission @ Work* training

Marker 5: Reinforcement/Evaluation – Sustaining Vitalization

Checkpoints: Repeat TruPoint™ Assessments and Compare Findings to Marker 1 Findings
Convene a Conference (onsite or online) to discuss second assessment findings and consider recommendations with a GO Center consultant.

Marker 5 Checklist:

- Completed second round of TruPoint™ Assessments and compared findings with first round of TruPoint™ findings.
- Completed second assessment conference with GO Center consultant.
- CELEBRATED progress made in the 18/24-Month Journey to Vitalization.

COST per Church: \$15,000*

The cost per church to be paid to the GO Center is \$15,000. This includes all training, consulting, coaching, and assessment by GO Center personnel. It includes access to digital masters of most training materials and permission to copy those materials for in-house use. It includes specialty training videos mentioned in this document. It also includes all travel expenses incurred by GO Center personnel. Additional costs include selected published materials such as *The Leadership Ladder*, professional demographics if desired from an organization such as Percept Group, and the *Natural Church Development Survey*.

Note: The GO Center, in partnership with Church Coach Ministries, provides a funding campaign that enables churches engaged in The GO POWER Project to generate funding through a “miniature capital campaign.” The campaign is titled, *Questing After God’s Heart: 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting for Revitalization* and is facilitated through digital materials in the form of videos and downloads produced by Church Coach Ministries. There is no cost to participating churches for the 21-day campaign as the cost is included in the overall project price. Though some churches might not need this campaign financially, we strongly recommend that they embrace the campaign regardless because of the interest, visibility and buy-in that the campaign engenders.

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Comprehensive Pastor, GO Leader Team & Vision Team Interaction with Ken Priddy & GO Center Personnel

Now What? pp. 57-58 of the G.O.1 Training Manual

COACHWORKS! *Implementation Guide*

50 Days to Vitality – Prayer, Devotional, Preaching Series

Scheduled Monthly Phone or Video Conference with Pastor

Unlimited Phone & Email Access for Pastor & One Additional Vision Team Member

Scheduled Bi-Monthly Video Conference with the Vision Team

Occasional Video Conference with GO Leader Team as Determined

Additional Online Training with *The Leadership Ladder & X52: Great Commission Skills for Pastors*

Additional On-Site Training with *GO Business: The Great Commission @ Work*

Cost: \$15,000 through Completion of the Process (~ 18 – 24 Months)

Note 1: Completion Based on the Following Criteria:

Vision Team Tasks, Assignments & Checklists Completed

Prayer Teams Consistently Active

Initial Strategies for Four Disciplines Developed & Implemented

Initial Ministries for Great Commission Matrix Developed & Implemented

End of Launch Season Evaluated (~ at Month 18 – 24)

Note 2: The \$15,000 Contract Fee to be raised through a specialized capital campaign as follows:

Questing After God's Heart – 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting for Revitalization

Including:

Introductory Overview Video

Instruction Manual Download

Pledge Card Download

3 Weekly Campaign Videos (see following description)

VIDEOS:

In taking your congregation through this 21-day prayer and fasting journey, recruit at least one person from the congregation to sign up for each day of the 21 days of prayer and fasting. Ask people within your congregation to sign up for one day, making sure each day is covered. We will provide three videos, one each week. The videos will cover the following:

Week 1: The Posture

It's important for people to understand what it sounds like to hear the Lord's voice in their own lives and how to respond. We will dive into how obedience to the Lord's voice is the key.

Week 2: The Enemies

We are going to talk about the things that ensnare and occupy us, separating us from what the Lord has for our lives. We will take a look at debt, dishonest gain, and distraction.

Week 3: The Abundance

It's important that people understand that the Lord wants to bless us abundantly as a result of our obedience to His voice. We will talk about five different types of abundance: Abundant Finances, Abundant Relationships, Abundant Righteousness, Abundant Ministry, and Abundant Worship.

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In addition, there is one instructional video for key leaders that provides an overview of the entire campaign, as well as digital downloads of an instructional manual and a 90-day pledge card.

*The cost per church of \$15,000 is for the complete, comprehensive 18/24-month engagement between the church and the GO Center. However, there are other formats that are offered at lower costs, though the full commitment and experience are recommended.

FYI – though \$15,000 is formidable for many churches, it should be noted that pricing from other organizations that provide a similar ministry to that of the GO Center can range from \$40,000-\$60,000. Also, the GO Center provides the means for churches to raise the needed funding through a “miniature capital campaign” called, *Questing After God’s Heart: 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting for Church Revitalization*. This is offered through a special arrangement between the GO Center and Church Coach Ministries at NO COST to the church.

APPENDIX B

GO Center Presbytery Coordinators:

Larry Jung
Mike Griffin
Mark Tippin
Bill Senyard
Marc Shefelton
Steve Burton
Tim Filston
Evilio Vilches
Bruce Allison
Rob Westlund
Bill Kelly
Will Shurley
Bill Rasch

GO Center Coaches and Coaches-in-Training:

Bruce Allison
Paul Becker
Rick Blair
Rick Wolling
Denny Finnegan
Chris Mathewson
Carolyn Poteet
Kelly Negus
Ed McCallum
Mike Griffin
Jon Sharpe
Mark Tippin
Rick Gerhardt
Ray Skinner
Tim Filston
Jonathan Schwartz
Dave Brown

Jim Farrell
Bill Kelly
Thom Burbridge
Rob Buchanan
Bucky Hunsicker
Rob Westlund
Eddie Spencer
Steve Burton
Greg Davis
Jonathan Schwartz
Larry Jung
Joy Tayler
Ray Zinn
Mark Steiner
Bill Rasch
Bill Senyard
Bob Stauffer

Ken Priddy
Shannon Price
Chris Greenwood
Stacy Miller
Rob Buchannan
Fran Westlund
Christine Bruce
Stephan Clark
Bill Cliff
Cynthia Cornish
Charlene Crawford
Shari Hofstetter
Kim McLean
Steve McLean
Dan Morrison
Don Nichol

APPENDIX B

Transitional Coaches:

Jim Farrell
Bruce Allison
Bill Rasch
Bob Stauffer
Ken Priddy
Chris Mathewson
Carolyn Poteet
Paul Becker