Unit 4: The Power of Partnerships

KEY CONCEPTS
- Partnerships improve, expand, and transform ministries.
- Partnerships are grounded in relationships of mutuality.
- Partnerships emerge and flourish as people and groups combine their assets.

OBJECTIVES
- Participants will appreciate the role partnerships can have in developing ministries.
- Participants will learn how to initiate partnerships based on assets rather than needs.
- Participants will identify churches, businesses, organizations and government entities that may become partners with their local congregation.
- Participants will name and learn to articulate the strengths/assets their church has to offer to partners.

SCRIPTURES
- Matthew 7: 7-12

MORNING SESSION
- Centering time.
- Presentation on forming asset-based partnerships.
- Church teams will develop a brief statement describing key assets they bring to potential partnerships.
- Connection Blueprint resources will be provided for church teams to use to identify partners and draw them into joint ministries.
- Teams share emerging ideas.

AFTERNOON SESSION
- Group 1 Stories (pg 26-27)
- Group 2 Presentations (pg 28-29)

HOMEWORK
- See Next Steps
CURRENT PARTNERS

Connection Blueprint Target Population: ___________________________________________

Ministry Focus for Connection Blueprint: ___________________________________________

As you think about what you are currently doing, what individuals, groups and organizations help you implement this ministry? (Be as comprehensive as you can)

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FOUR KEY PRINCIPLES
FOR DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS NOTE PAGE

1. Partnerships emerge and thrive by sharing strengths and assets.

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2. Partnerships start small and grow over time.

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3. Get to know your partner’s goals and work to ensure they are achieved.

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____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

4. Celebrate and promote that you are a faith--based group with your partner.

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Neighborhood Residents
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

Sister Churches
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

Other levels of the United Methodist Church
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

Civic Organizations
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
Businesses and Corporations (including banks and managed care companies)
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________

Anchor Institutions: Hospitals & Universities
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

Foundations & United Way
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________

Government Entities
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

Individuals of Wealth
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
ASSETS YOU HAVE TO OFFER PARTNERS

Describe the key assets of your church and your connection blueprint ministry that would be valuable to potential partners.

1. ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

4. ______________________________________________________________________
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5. ______________________________________________________________________
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How might these strengths and resources help your potential partners achieve their goals?

1. ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

4. ______________________________________________________________________
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5. ______________________________________________________________________
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