

“Just Checking In...”

Just recently our newly formed Sugarloaf Council established as set of “Operational Values” that I want you to know about. Values are those “non-negotiable” principles that define an organization, in our case, Sugarloaf United Methodist Church. They direct our actions and decisions from day to day.

After considering many possible values, the Council narrowed it down to three. Everything we do, every decision we make, every action we take as a church will have to pass the “values test.” Here are the values we have established:

God Honoring

Innovative Commitment to Excellence

Responsible Stewardship

Here’s how this will work. When a plan, suggestion, or idea is expressed, the first question we will ask is ***“Is this God-honoring?”*** If not, there’s no reason to spend time discussing it. If so, then we move to the second value; ***“How can we do this with innovation and a commitment to excellence?”*** Efforts will be made to make sure we are creative in our planning, not just doing things “the same old way.” If we decide to follow through on the idea, we will agree that we won’t do it until and unless it can be done with excellence! The next step will be to ask, ***“Does this decision or action reflect responsible stewardship on our part?”*** If not, then it may mean abandoning the idea or postponing plans until such time that the event/program/ministry could be done in a manner that reflects responsible stewardship and use of resources

I believe these operational values can prove to be enormously beneficial in our ministry planning. I appreciate the work the Sugarloaf Council has put into the crafting of these ideas. Sugarloaf United Methodist Church is already known in this community for it’s commitment to vibrant, creative ministry. This is simply a continuation of the incredible things God can do in and through our ministry together!

I look forward to seeing you Sunday as we ***WORSHIP – GROW – SERVE!***

Stuart

