

Gaddis Church
A United Methodist Congregation

"Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"



August 9th, 2011

Dear Congregation,

As you may know, over the course of the past year, I have been participating in an initiative sponsored by the Southwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church called the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI), which is a process of renewal for growing healthy and fruitful congregations.

The first phase of this process was for me to participate in a component called Pastoral Leadership Development I, which was a monthly meeting of a study and discussion group, in which several pastors met with two facilitators for coaching, discussion, and mutual accountability centered around monthly reading assignments. The goal has been to develop the leadership skills of the pastors involved to help us to better lead ourselves, our churches, and others.

Though I will continue with the second component of Pastoral Leadership Development, I now have the opportunity to share this same information in a study group within our congregation in order to further develop the leadership skills of our laity. I am encouraging those who are current leaders, or who have potential for future leadership in the church to be a part of this study group. The material is valuable and relevant, and my hope is that it will help us to "speak the same language" and "pull in the same direction" when it comes to the life and ministry of the church.

We will meet monthly for about three hours to discuss the reading assignments for each session, and the reason that I have not yet come up with a date and time for our meetings, is that I want to find out who is interested in participating, and then work with that group to find meeting times that match up with as many of our calendars as possible. I am including a list of the readings and topics for each month.

If you are interested in participating in this study and discussion group, please call the church office to ask Bridget to put your name on the signup sheet. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call or send me an email.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this opportunity.

In Christ's love and service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason A. Teague". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'T'.

Jason A. Teague, Pastor