

Missional Engagement Guidelines

Thank you for leading a team to serve in the city! Here are a few guidelines to help groups have similar experiences serving in the city.

1. **Invite people to serve with you. Personal invitations invite people into relationships.**
Establish time frame for serving opportunity
 - a. Remember to allow enough time for all items below to occur.
2. **Communicate with Joan Boiano (jboiano@hpcumc.org) the specifics of the serving opportunity**
 - a. Date, time, place, what they need to bring, special skills, your contact information (telephone & email are best) etc. Joan will make sure the info is updated on the awaken the city website.
3. **Unless someone informs you that there are strict restrictions on the number of people serving, please NEVER turn anyone away.** If God is prompting them to serve, we want to help them connect. I am available to help process how, what, and where to use people.
4. **Meet at the church**
5. **Do personal introductions and introduction to the serving opportunity.**
 - a. if there are people who are serving for the first time or serving in this location for the first time, provide a brief overview of where they are going and your experience serving
6. **Read a passage of scripture & pray together** before you leave for the ministry you will be a part of and your place in serving (SEE ATTACHED BIBLE STUDY). “Challenge” people to live with a question from the text. Here are a few sample scriptures.
 - a. Matthew 5:14-16
 - b. Isaiah 58:6-12
 - c. 1 Corinthians 12:12-31
 - d. Matthew 28:16-20
7. **Drive together to the ministry site**
Some will want to drive separately; discourage this as much as possible. Many of the locations we serve at have limited parking. Traveling together also provides an opportunity to get to know the people you are serving with..
8. **Serve!** Remember to be flexible and available to the needs as they may arise. E.g., you may think you are going to serve breakfast and what needs to be done is sitting with an elderly person. Or you may be thinking you are going to serve breakfast and what really needs to happen is holding a child. Focus on the relationships being developed.
9. **Return to church and debrief or debrief at the location.** Transformation begins to happen when we process what we experience.
Here are some questions to begin with:
 - i. What did we do?
 - ii. What encounter made the deepest impression?
 - iii. What are my thoughts and feelings about this encounter?
 - iv. What actions of hope and obedience did I see?
 - v. What do I sense Christ saying through this experience?
 - vi. Because all of our serving opportunities are now coming under the ministry of Awaken the City, finish the sentence stem... below (if possible write down what you hear & return to me). This has proven to be a useful way to evaluate what people have experienced and help them with the next steps
 1. I am awake to....
 2. Close with prayer
10. **Communicate when and how the next time to serve can be found.**