Evangelism Focus 2026 Screen Share

Proposal:
NWYM churches commit to renewing and improving evangelistic practices. This 2026 focus on evangelism has 3 parts:

1. Prayer
2. Inviting
3. Improving connection to the community

1) **Prayer** – Prayer is foundational to a church practicing evangelism.
In the spirit of Matthew 9:36-37 the church:

a. prays for Jesus' heart and passion for people to be the passion of the church.
b. prays for the community surrounding the church and for openings to share Christ.
c. prays for the church to live and model the transforming life of Christ in us.
d. prays for neighbors, friends and family to make commitments to Christ.

Prayer measures:

a. There is a committed group within the church which has specific times, during the week that each group member prays for the evangelistic work of their church.
b. There is at least one prayer time on the church schedule that is dedicated to, or that includes prayer for those who do not know Christ. This may be an established prayer time, open to anyone, but it includes church members who are committed to attend, with the intent of praying for the evangelistic outreach of the church.

2) **Inviting** to worship where the gospel is presented

Each church will develop the practice of two or three times a month, during the Sunday morning worship, of inviting people to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

a. Avenues for the gospel to be presented during a worship service can include:

~ testimonies, individuals will tell their stories of coming to Christ

~ sermons

~ prayer times

~ updates from the mission fields

~ reference to a scripture reading or a song that makes the invitation to come to Christ

~ other. . .

b. Inviting Sundays - three Sundays during the year, including Friend Day in the fall, will be highlighted as times to invite people to church. These will be used as steppingstones toward our churches creating more consistent practices of invitation.

Inviting Measures:

a. How and when our church gives opportunities for people to come to Christ are planned and prayed over.

b. Inviting Sundays are planned and evaluated for improved effectiveness.

3) **Moving** toward the community
   Each congregation is in a unique location and may already be working on ways to connect and build relationships in its area. The 3rd commitment to increasing evangelistic practices is to either begin or to sharpen how the church is intentionally moving toward the community.
   Moving toward the community measures:
   a) We can state when, where and how we are present in our community outside of church events.

Timeline:
~ 2026 Evangelism Focus will be announced at the NWYM mid-year representative meetings February 6-7. This will be followed up by an invitation to all the churches.
~ February 23 and 24 there will be online meetings where Associate Superintendent, Alan Weinacht will go over this emphasis and get commitments from churches.
~ In late March there will be an online meeting that is open to all participating churches to share and glean ideas with and from each other.
~ During Pastors Conference, April 20-22, there will be a time for participating church pastors to meet, share, celebrate and pray together.
~ At yearly meeting in July, the Church Revitalization workshop hour will be dedicated to sharing, celebrating and praying together.

The goal is to encourage our NWYM churches to renew intentionality in evangelism. Let's see what the Lord does.