

Recently, Rev. Curtis was asked by the Long Range Planning Team of Faith Presbyterian Church in Quincy, IL to lead in an overnight leadership training event focused on developing the foundation for a five year strategic plan for ministry. The foundation for the retreat was to come to an understanding of missional ministry from a biblical and practical perspective. Then, taking these perspectives, the Quincy leadership began talking about the needs of their church and how those needs can be connected to missional ministry. By the end of the retreat the leadership developed a few foundational goals from which they could build their five year strategic plan. Rev. Curtis said, "To see the excitement on the faces of this group of leaders was worth every minute put into planning the content for the retreat."

Faith Presbyterian Church Ruling Elder, Dennis Gorman [also a member of the Joint Commission and NWAC Leadership Team] shares his perspective on this meeting. Thanks, Dennis, for your insights and observations.

"You Had to be There"

*Dennis Gorman, Ruling Elder, Faith Presbyterian Church
April 26, 2009*

"Last weekend the Leadership (Pastors, Elders and Deacons) of Faith Presbyterian Church in Quincy, IL met at Heartland Lodge near Nebo, Illinois for a long range planning session.

NW Mission Mobilizer Andy Curtis led the session and was simply excellent. Our main goal was to formulate a 5 year plan to become an effective missional church.

The discussion focused on:

- *Identifying who Faith Presbyterian is as a church.*
- *How we can attain and maintain a satisfactory level of spiritual health for our congregation so we are prepared to "Go Ye Therefore..." in Quincy?*
- *How do we train our members as evangelists and missionaries to "Go Ye Therefore in Quincy..." which focused on specific training for leaders and our congregation?*
- *How do we in fact "Go Ye Therefore..." in Quincy which centered on forming a ministry network or multiple affinity networks with like minded churches to spread the Gospel?*

Bottom line is this event was a major success and I have no doubt will have long term positive ramifications on Faith Presbyterian Church as we progress on our journey to becoming an effective missional church.

On Sunday at both of our services Andy preached an outstanding sermon on the history of NW and what it means to be missional.

Suggest consideration be given for this type approach as a standard option for Andy as he travels about (i.e. LRP session with Pastors, Elders and Deacons on how to become a missional church within the local community)

As one who has been through the process I would be happy to convey my impressions to anyone who wants to hear."

To contact Dennis Gorman, click [here](#).