

Lay Leadership Summit 2024

One Ministry for All Ages

Rev. Erik Gauss and Rev. Dave Gaddini

- 1) What is your goal/target/win/outcome?
 - a. For Cross we wanted to engage Luther's vision for the small catechism "As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household"
 - b. Less outsourcing of spiritual formation to the church LLC.
 - c. Parent's, including degreed LCMS church workers, feel inadequate so they need support.
 - d. We wanted to see all ages together, mentoring, modeling, leading, following.
 - e. If believers can't mentor the faith for other Christian's, how will the mentor the faith with their" neighbors?"
- 2) Training vs. Teaching – Think training a student to drive vs. academic knowledge
 - a. Teaching was at church, training was at home/culture etc.
 - b. Culture doesn't support the teaching anymore. Teaching can be found online
 - i. Who is training now?
 - c. **People are so busy they don't have a place to process the information – overload.**
 - d. I do you watch, I lead you help, You lead I help, You lead I cheer
- 3) First Act In Learning (Ready, Fire, Aim)
 - a. Set a target, take aim and fire
 - b. Recalibrate, re-aim and re-fire
 - c. Cast vision, measure the correct outcomes (not ONLY attendance)
 - d. Scale it up when ready
- 4) New "Yes" requires a new "No" and sometimes two
 - a. We gave up Saturday night worship – to refocus staff and volunteer energy.
 - b. We gave up VBS for Outdoor Family Sundays.
 - c. We gave up "confirmation classes for 8th graders" to create urgency for parents.
 - d. Give it time – Change curve
- 5) Best Practices –
 - a. Food – Working families, sports, place for empty nesters
 - b. Approachable goals – Once a month "All IN" at Cross
 - c. Together for a while - everyone compromises. Then break out with intentional and clear objectives.
 - i. Parents with 4th grade on down. Games and discussion

- ii. Middle school - Extra mentors for more catechetical themed activities and discussion.
- iii. High School – Guest leaders for deeper discussion
- iv. High school middle school combined activities to mentor and be mentored.
- v. Best feedback is parent vs. student dodgeball and all ages Bingo

Contact

Cross Lutheran Church and School

www.hiscross.org

egauss@hiscross.org

630-553-7335w

262-416-8835c

www.whiskeyshepherds.org (podcast on Spotify and Apple)

www.patreon.com/whiskeyshepherds