

Here's what's coming up



heritage
CHURCH

Real People • Real Faith

January 2010

A couple of years ago I was on vacation in Florida and rented a wave-runner. After about an hour of flying around in the Gulf, we headed in. As we slowly approached the harbor a porpoise surfaced right near us. It was exciting to see!

As I reflected on that experience it occurred to me that the porpoise was already in the water but I wasn't excited until I saw it...until I connected to it. The preacher in me thought about that moment as I prepared to write this note to you. I want to talk to you about the purpose of the church (note the cute juxtaposition of porpoise and purpose ☺).

Our passion is to meet people wherever they are on their spiritual journey and lead them into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ in order to change the world.

That's been our passion...our purpose...for a long time. It's "already in the water." But until you connect to it, it remains pretty cold and sterile. Until you connect with it and experience it and participate in it, it isn't exciting for you.

One of the things that has made Heritage Church an effective and meaningful place is that the people of the church have been passionate about our passion statement. They connected with friends and family members and co-workers and classmates in significant ways. They offered friendship not just friendliness. They met people wherever they were. They looked for opportunities to live a life of care and Christ-like love. They invited them to church. They introduced them to Jesus. They helped others grow up in Christ as they themselves were growing up in Christ.

Does that describe you? Are you living that purpose? Heritage is a good church. You are blessed by a good experience as you show up on the weekend. But when you connect to the purpose of the church...when you start involving yourself in helping others connect to Christ...when you do that, church becomes exciting!

So here are a few questions. Who do you know that could benefit by a relationship with Jesus? Go ahead and make a list. What could you do to demonstrate Christ's love to them? Go ahead and do that. When could you invite them to church?

Here's what I predict. As you connect with the purpose of Christ, you will pray more because it's a little scary to do that. And, as you connect with the purpose of Christ **and start to live** out the passion of Heritage Church, you will find excitement because it's thrilling to watch your friends come to Jesus!

Coming in February: "NEXT LEVEL LOVING" ~ Our Annual *Marriage Enrichment Evening* on Friday, February 19th. Watch the bulletin for details...