

Professional Ministries Team
BGM Report
November, 2018

The Professional Ministries Team met on October 23 and focused on, “Innovative Models of Ministry, one of the seven Mission Table priorities. Rev. Patricia Murphy delivered an excellent PowerPoint presentation on the topic and the team surfaced several insights including the following:

- There are many forms of part-time ministry models.
- We need to share success stories of these models.
- There are self-esteem issues related to bi-vocational ministry.
- Having a part-time minister is not a sign of failure.
- Some ministers embrace new models while others reject “tent making ministries.”
- Congregations close enough for one pastor to serve both have often developed a sense of competition over the years due to their proximity.
- Training for pastors needs to be more focused upon culture change.
- Since Millennials are growing and adding to their number daily from immigration, we must take into account the needs and culture of Millennials as we consider innovative models of ministry.
- As we compare Millennials today to Millennials 50 years ago, today’s Millennials say, “I am living my best life now,” as compared to, “I am going to live my best life in retirement.”
- Millennials want to save the world not the church
- What does it mean to disciple Millennials?

As a result of the discussion, they are exploring several follow-up action items including:

- identifying and interviewing persons with potential success stories
- distributing a survey on the topic

At their next meeting, they will begin a review process of the Professional Registry Guidelines.

Respectfully submitted, C. Jeff Woods