



**Bowie Pastor's Forum Report
Meeting of February 26, 2009
Noon – 1:30 PM**

Attendees:

Pastor Scot Moore – Judah Temple AME Church
Pastor Ray McDonald – Mt. Oak Fellowship
Pastor Ron Crawford – New Vision Church
Pastor Jaim Gann – Trinity Lutheran Church
Gale TeSelle – Executive Director Turn ON the Light-Bowie (TOTL-Bowie)
Al Goff – Communications & Training Coordinator, TOTL-Bowie
Tom Knorr – Bowie Prayer Walk Leader, TOTL-Bowie

Opening:

Gale welcomed the pastors to the second meeting of the Pastor's Forum. He indicated that Light of the World Foundation has reserved the Bowie Community Center conference room for this meeting and for future monthly meetings. Meeting folders were provided to each participant which included the agenda and materials related to the agenda.

Pastor Jaim Gann opened in prayer and everyone enjoyed the meal provided by Three Brothers Italian Restaurant. As the meal ended, since Pastor Scot Moore was new to the group, Gale asked him to share some personal and professional information about himself. Scot is the senior pastor at Judah Temple AME church at 14500 Mt. Oak Road and he has been a pastor for approximately 13 years.

Coordination and Upcoming Events:

Gale spoke briefly about Turn ON the Light-Bowie and that its chief purpose is to help churches work together to reach the lost in the city. Our neighbors are our mission field. We have approximately 45,000 un-churched people living in the Greater Bowie area who do not know Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Al Goff, Communications & Training Coordinator for Turn ON the Light-Bowie, shared information about the new Bowie Pastor's Forum Page on the website and about upcoming events shown on the Events Page. Al highlighted the Mid-Atlantic Cancer Support Center Bowie meetings and the upcoming start of the Bowie Prayer Walk, the National Day of Prayer, and the Charity Golf Tournament. Gale further indicated that the Charity Golf Tournament has a church competition component with a traveling trophy and encouraged Pastor Scot to round up some golfer from his church to participate. The date for that is Monday, May 4th. Pastor Ray asked that the monthly Bowie Street Reach be added to the Events Page. He shared about the origins and purpose of Bowie Street Reach and how City Officials are working together with churches on this outreach.

Pastor Ray also shared that as we think about outreach to the city and as more churches work together, we might consider hosting an outreach event with a well-known evangelistic speaker and encourage our members to invite their unsaved neighbors. Perhaps we could think about doing something in 2010 and holding it at the Bowie Center for Performing Arts or the Baysox Stadium.

Tom Knorr took a few minutes to share about Muriel Ericksen, the widow of former pastor Al Ericksen who led Grace Lutheran for 43 years. Muriel still lives and worships in Bowie and she recalls how much Al was blessed by meeting with the pastors. Muriel continues to pray for the pastors and is even considering forming

a group of pastor's wives. Tom also reported on Pastor Fuller who was currently training leaders in Ethiopia and was planning to go to Egypt and Israel as well. Lastly, Tom shared briefly on the Bowie PrayerWalk that starts on Sunday April 26th as well as the National Day of Prayer which is scheduled for May 7th.

Al handed out copies of "Facebook for Pastors" describing how pastors can use Facebook as a tool to enhance their ministry. Pastor Ray shared how he uses it to connect with his members, especially the youth who use Facebook extensively. It is a very useful tool to form groups, post upcoming events, and invite Facebook participants to the events. Gale said if enough pastors get involved with Facebook, he would form a Bowie Pastors Forum Group and use Facebook as another helpful communication tool.

Bowie Pastor's Forum Charter:

Gale indicated that most of the draft Bowie Pastor's Forum Charter was approved at the last meeting. However, we did not have enough time to talk about how to invite other pastors and grow the Forum. After some discussion, the consensus was to invite pastors who support the evangelistic outreach vision of reaching the lost in the city and who agree with the doctrinal statements of Turn ON the Light-Bowie. Gale indicated he would send a letter to all the pastors of Christian churches in Bowie (approximately 50 on our website) indicating our evangelistic outreach purpose and doctrinal statements and invite any pastor who is like minded to come join us. Gale also indicated he would try to visit pastors and personally invite them to join the Forum.

Closing Prayer:

The meeting ended with a round of prayer by all pastors and Turn ON the Light-Bowie leaders. Tom closed the time of prayer.

Next Meetings:

The next Bowie Pastor's Forum meeting will be Thursday, March 26th at the Bowie Community Center conference room. We will continue to meet the last Thursday of every month, so following meetings will be April 30th, May 28th, etc. We start promptly at Noon as lunch is served as part of each meeting. Please add these meetings to your annual calendar.