

Healthy Church Initiative (HCI)

Here is an overview of what the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI) is feel free to ask anyone involved about it, and/or come to the Town Hall meetings to learn more. HCI is an intentional leadership development process designed to enhance the skills of pastors and laity to lead growing, vibrant, spirit-filled churches. There are three main components: Continuous Learning, Consultation, and Coaching. In the Continuous learning phase church leaders are in some form of environment to support and encourage one another. There are workshops for groups of pastors and laity throughout the experience. Upon request we can enter into the Consultation phase where trained consultants visit the church to identify strengths and concerns and to provide prescriptions to address ministry opportunities. Consultations include the following elements-community study, analysis of key data of the church, interviews with leaders, congregational training, visits from mystery guest worshipers and more. Finally, the churches who accept the prescriptions are assigned a trained coach to work with them over the next two years to identify resources and to hold leaders accountable to one another as they complete their ministry goals.

The people from our church who are participating in the Healthy Church Initiative continuous learning group from our church are: Amy Peterson, Chet Pyawasit, Donna Probst, Grace Spalding, Jan Lange, Jack Schoon, Mike Karels, Mike Masters, Nancy Danielson, and Ryan Ross (along with Pastor Cory).

Our first month of learning was based on the book “You Lost Me” by David Kinnaman. It was a book about why young Christians are leaving church...and rethinking faith. There were two diagrams that we would like to share with you.

In Their Own Words

How Young People Describe Their Spiritual Journeys—
Away from Church and Faith

(Americans with a Christian background, ages 18-29 (Book was written in 2011))

Perceptions of Church and Faith	All Christians	Protestants	Catholics
Ever dropped out of attending church, <u>After going regularly</u>	59%	61%	56%
Ever personally been significantly <u>Frustrated about your faith</u>	50%	51%	49%
<u>Compared to age 15, less spiritual today</u>	29%	31%	29%
<u>Compared to age 15, less active in Church today</u>	57%	58%	65%
Went through period when you <u>Significantly doubted your faith</u>	38%	41%	33%
Went through period when you felt like <u>Rejecting your parents’ faith</u>	32%	35%	25%

Shallow in Their Own Words

Percentage of 18-29 year-olds who have a Christian background

	Completely true of me	Mostly True of Me
<u>Church is boring</u>	16%	31%
<u>Faith is not relevant to my career Or my interests.</u>	13%	24%
<u>My church does not prepare me for real life</u>	9%	23%
<u>My church does not help me find my purpose</u>	9%	23%
<u>The Bible is not taught clearly or often enough</u>	7%	23%
<u>God seems missing from my experience of church</u>	7%	20%