



CLARITY OF IDENTITY

A clear sense of identity is evident in principally articulated vision, intentionality, multi-generational membership, and reconciliation.

As Congregations, Sessions, Pastors

We will be:

- Certain of who we are in Christ and what he calls us to do
- Faithful to the mission of Christ that we are “Proclaimers and hearers of the Word of God...Administers and receivers of the Sacraments...Nurturers of a covenant community of disciples of Christ” (F-1.0303)
- Leaders, Disciples, Ambassadors of Reconciliation

Therefore, we will:

- Love our neighbors intentionally and authentically
- Articulate our vision and mission
- Appreciate and live out our DNA
- Establish a plan for spiritual and ecclesial health
- Take risks and boldly change for the sake of the Gospel
- Emphasize God’s call as it manifests itself in the marks of a Vibrant Christ Centered Community

As the Presbytery

We will be:

- A pathway for congregations to have clear identity
- A resource for transformation

Therefore, we will:

- Assess congregations to help them understand their particular call
- Encourage Pastors to use Continuing Education to deepen their personal call and congregational mission
- Have events that relate to effective congregational models
- Discuss what it means to be “reformed and always reforming”

Actions specific to Clarity of Identity Part Two:

- Help Congregations articulate an understanding of what constitutes their DNA
- Help Congregation identify their values and vision
- Provide tools for congregational plans for ministry that understand their particular resources and context
- Gather an articulated vision/mission of every congregation
- Focus on the Biblical Theme for the 6 months – encouraging congregations to join in the shared Bible Study on congregational identity

Biblical Narrative for Clarity of Identity Part 2: “Be transformed by the renewing...”

Scripture:

- **I Corinthians 13:12-14** “For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.”
- **Romans 12:1-2** “I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Process:

- **Events**
 - Assembly 8/21**
 - + Clarity Track – Invite leaders and congregations to name their vision and values. Ask questions of how those values and vision reflect the 5 marks and 3 principles of vibrancy
 - + Evaluation Track – Hold conversation about the Vibrant Together workplan and ask questions that will prompt thinking about bright spots and gaps in the ministry plan
 - Pastors Convocation** – Learn from Pastors how they understand their congregation’s vision and values and the impact of the Vibrant Together work.
 - Assembly 11/13**
 - + Clarity Track – Present compiled *je ne sais quoi* of vision and values for all congregations together.
 - + Evaluation Track -- Vote on a proposed ministry plan for 2022-2024.
- **Spiritual Practice:** Prayer as Spiritual Practice for Clarity of Identity.