

New Beginnings Steps and Time Line for Congregations

1. Decision Made to Participate- Present the New Beginnings program to appropriate leadership and make decision to proceed.

2. Dates set for Assessment and Training Event – done in conjunction with GA New Beginnings staff

(6 weeks minimum)

Church gets information to assessor during this time

3. On site Assessment (7 to 8 hours for Assessment) - Assessor looks at Building usage, finances, calendar and community during the day. In the evening: dinner with the pastor and one key leader, an Appreciative Inquiry session led by a Presbytery representative, closing and next steps.

(6 weeks minimum)

4. Leader Training Event (4 hour event)- This is typically done on a long weekday evening, though a weekend date is possible depending on the availability of your assigned trainer. The second evening focuses on understanding the report and the discernment (small group) process.

(time determined by congregation, minimum of 3 weeks)

5. Small Group Meetings- congregation holds small group meetings to process the report. Typically this would be small group meetings over a 6 week period.

(TBD but often 6 weeks)

6. Decision Making Process – leaders collate and report results of small groups and fashion a process for making a final decision. National staff is available for a conference call at this point to help you think about what needs to happen in this final step.

(often a minimum of 6 weeks)

7. Decision Reported – leaders report their decision to their presbytery and to the Church Growth Office

| DATE | STEP |
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| | 1. Decision made by congregation to participate |
| | 2. Dates Set |
| | <i>6 weeks minimum</i> |
| | 3. On site Assessment in Congregation |
| | <i>6 weeks minimum</i> |
| | 4. Leadership Training Event |
| | <i>church determines, typically minimum of 3 weeks</i> |
| | 5. Small Group Meetings |
| | <i>usually 6 weeks</i> |
| | 6. Decision Making Process |
| | <i>6 weeks minimum</i> |
| | 7. Decision Made |