

Meeting James 29 Jan 2016 : Prep Notes
Can we talk to you as a pastor for advice

After 2 1/4 years at First Alliance we are unable to determine where marriage & family ministry sits as a ministry level (priority). Certainly we see no evidence this is a vibrant ministry and no regular team discussions and evaluations. No growth in exiting ministry & poor Communication has been poor - no newsletter, little use of media, the Gary Thomas events not shared or discussed with team ahead of appearing in Fac News Sheet

Pre-marriage -9nov 2013. 19Jan 2014, 21 March 2014, 31 May 2014 (at home)

Marriage Sept 2014, January 2015

Prepare & Enrich Training May 2014 - have done none for FAC

911 Marriage training summer 2014

Men resistant to marriage & family issues. How do we break down?

Was there ever a FAC pastor of Marriage & Family ministry?

Currently there is no pastor of marriage & family ministry nor any sign of strong support or encouragement at a senior level of the church. We have been part of the existing ministry for all the 2 1/4 and have only had one very short conversation with a pastor on marriage issues - it took almost 5 weeks to arrange that!

20 couples a year being administered by the Dynamic Marriage is a small proportion of the congregation and some couples find the content difficult, time consuming and really a strong faith. Should there be an active alternative open to non-Christians & couples outside the community especially non-married couples

Trust ,collaboration (criticism/not one shot/feedback/open door) diversity (easy to have all people like me....diverse strengths/experience - have to work on these all the time

Overlapping of ministries- little cross communication

The interface between ministries is a puzzle for us

Alpha situation

multiple finance courses

A number of people have been hurt in attempting to minister in this area - should anything be done to reconcile with assistance?

Options:

We would love to organize a limited time Marriage Life group and let them hopefully go on and build a permanent Life group &/or run future courses - fit with a night food is served by Harvest elsewhere. Start a Parenting group too

Find a few couples to run courses at home - external focus

The interface between ministries is a puzzle for us

Alpha situation

multiple finance courses

18 years with Alpha

-3.5 years Alpha Evangelism as facilitators

15 years Alpha Marriage & family - & Parenting

Valentines initiative

12 years as Calgary area coaches - train others in all courses

4 visits with Nicky & Sila - winnipeg strong involvement

Strong relationship & friendship with Elaine Young National President

Run many events with Elaine

How we came to FAC? Nov 2013 - Marriage Prep Facilitator dropped out 8/9nov 2013

All contact via Jamie Unruh

Then Jan 2014 and 3 more - all evaluations good

Then Marriage Course Sept 14 and January 15 - last course we were involved in

12 March finish

WE offer to run next Marriage Course as long as could co-facilitate it - on vacation

All couples said they would recommend and almost zero drop out

March 15 Relationship Central Training event which neither we nor team consulted on

- had to find our from fellow coaches at Foothills - builds distrust

For Alliance churches

5-6 couples attended from FAC - we don't know who they are

although we did email 100 couples - 1 came through

Perfectly complementary

January 18th Only team meeting - more Ron sharing his dream - little discussion

Confidentiality issues

10 day painful exchange of emails - removed from course 24 hours before

Last meeting of Team Bible Study we attended 16 th Sept - limited attendance

2/3 October Relationship Central get together Calgary with Elaine - 3 Alliance church represented - chat James 24 November meet Les & Ron - 9 minute verdict

Event 11 February - team not informed - need to read general FAC notes

- our gifts of hospitality

Where does Marriage & Family issues fit within FAC? How should it be organized
Build a strong base of couple committed to marriage

Options:

We organized a limited time Marriage Life group and let them hopefully go on and build a permanent Life group &/or run future courses - fit with a night food is served by Harvest elsewhere

Find a few couples to run courses at home - external focus

Marriage & Family Conference 0- how to build from scratch - heal some of past hurts
Leadership conference

stuff filtered down on James approach - open transparent

our history - how we joined FAC - we thought Marriage was an important issue

Do Nicky & Silas have a place at FAC?

Course & team evaluations

Team responsibility to keep things on track, if necessary ask tough questions

confidentiality

why a team must grow in capability & experience

Vision must be shared

build relationships

How important is marriage & family at FAC

First ramble vision statement - not shared

Teresa not there

Attrition on Dynamic Marriage Course - why? No alternative
Very positive feedback on MC Parenting 2016

Behind back stuff
Had taken advice but did not dare to proceed with Ray

What is a team? Little or no relationship the members
Like a hockey team with no team discussions

working cooperatively other churches? be an example
Leadership conference
Marriage & Family conference

Please allocate 10% time for a passionate committed pastor

find 5 couple str run MC MPC in homes
treat it as a limit time home group under Grant Sylvester

run a small one Wednesday night

If w run one at how will FAC support it

10 minute meeting with Les - only discussion in 2 yearsa verdict

Use of media YYC does little
Promoting courses ?