Content used for Hyde Park's Web page on reCONNECT, Fall 2008

Renew recharge
reCONNECT
Sept. 7 – Oct. 12, 2008

An uplifting church-wide experience of worship, personal study and group study

Hyde Park United Methodist invites you to reConnect this fall through six uplifting weeks of worship and personal and small group study designed to inspire and bring you closer to God.

reCONNECT is different from any other series in that it is written to fit the busy lives of Hyde Park members—and in fact was created by Hyde Park members.

Senior Pastor Jim Harnish and a team of writers and editors authored and produced the 80-page reCONNECT workbook that features insights on topics of prayers, presence, gifts and service, and testimonies by Hyde Park members. Daily readings are broken down so they can be easily understood or for those longing for a deeper connection the workbook offers in-depth study ideas. Personal space is provided for participants to record their reflections privately. Daily connection tips help participants get actively involved in this life-changing study.

Children and families will be able to share the reCONNECT daily study with a special children's reCONNECT workbook written just for children. The children's study follows the same church wide weekly themes, with examples and messages just for children.

The reCONNECT workbooks will be provided free to all. It is this congregation's way of inviting each of us to establish more meaningful relationships, develop spiritual strength and prompt us to make a difference in the lives of others in our community, our country or on other continents. Registration begins Aug. 3.

reCONNECT will be offered on CD or as a download from this website as well.

Weekly Focus (study and Sunday worship)

Sept. 7 "Longing for Connection" will focus on our fundamental need to be connected to be connected to what some folks call "a higher power." We experience that power when we are connected to God, to others, and to the Body of Christ.

Sept. 14 "Connected to God's Power" will guide us in discovering the basic framework for a discipline of prayer and bible study through which we are connected to the power of God's Spirit at work in our lives and in the world around us

Sept. 21 "Connected to God's People" will focus on building Christian community and the importance of being present to one another. We find power in our connection with other Christian disciples.

Sept. 28 "Connected to God's Generosity" will help us become aware of the extravagant generosity of God and will guide us to respond to that grace through the spiritual discipline of giving with an emphasis on tithing. God's power is released in and through our lives when we learn to give.

Oct. 5 "Connected to God's Transformation" will enable participants to discover their spiritual gifts and the way those gifts, released in service to others, become a part of God's transformation of the world.

Oct. 12 "Connected By Commitment" will lead participants to make our own commitments of prayers, presence, gifts, and service through the mission of our local church. We are connected to God's power thorough our commitments.

Oct. 19 Celebration: Rejoicing in the Connection" a joyful service of celebration.

Daily Scripture Readings

reConnect 72-Hour Prayer Vigil Thursday Sept. 4 –Sunday Sept. 7
Acts 1:14 "They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers."

Participate in 72 hours of prayer in the days preceding the launch of reCONNECT, either in the Laurie Ray Chapel or wherever you may be in your hour of prayer. Sign up in the courtyard Aug. 17 to commit to a specific 30-minute period in which you will lift up reCONNECT in prayer.

Join the Conversation on reCONNECT

Share your reflections and thoughts throughout reCONNECT online by posting comments to Hyde Park's congregational blog, Hyde Park Speaks.