

# SPEP Transition FAQ

**Q. *What are the dates for the main transition phases?***

A. March 10 – new schedule of classes, first try at a small group or two on Sunday, begin using a Spiritual Workbook.

April 21 (Easter) – celebrate the Lord’s Supper in both services every week.

June 9 – move to a unified Sunday Assembly – Worship followed by Discipleship.

**Q. *What will be the times for the Sunday Assembly?***

A. Exact times are still being worked out, but it should be very similar to our current schedule, which runs from 9:30 to 12:00-12:10.

**Q. *Is everyone required to stay after Worship for the Discipleship time?***

A. No. Anyone can join us simply for Worship and go home. The difference is that from now on, SPEP will plan for a Sunday gathering that is a Worship/Discipleship whole.

**Q. *Will there be any childcare on Sunday morning?***

A. Yes. We plan on infant care during both the Worship and Discipleship portions. We will therefore need lots of rotating volunteers so that no one regularly misses either segment. Older children will worship with us and then go to Sunday School or Youth Group.

**Q. *Are we planning major changes in our Sunday School and Youth program?***

A. No.

**Q. *How will the new small groups (called Growth Groups) work?***

A. In addition to classes and a discussion time with the Pastor, we will institute the option of having small groups on Sunday morning. They will be less than or equal to 12 members, first come, first served. The members agree to stay together for a quarter. Leaders will receive training in a great curriculum Mike Stephan will provide. At the end of a quarter, people may leave as “new” groups start, though some folks might decide to stay together and welcome some new participants.

**Q. *What will the new classes be like?***

A. We plan to always have at least one class devoted to Christian lifestyle and skill-building, and at least one other that is a deep dive into theology or church history. Those will run quarterly. A Connections group will run all the time. It will be a natural place for newcomers to start, as it will introduce what SPEP believes. It is also where newcomers can meet us, and where we can occasionally drop in just to meet them.

**Q. *What is a Spiritual Workbook?***

A. A simple notebook to help us decide what we intend to take away from each service.

**Q. *What is an Action Group?***

A. A group of 2-3 SPEP'ers who plan on sharing each week what they wrote in their Spiritual Workbook. Their only goal is mutual encouragement and prayer. People form their own Action Groups.

**Q. *Is everyone required to use a Spiritual Workbook or form an Action Group?***

A. Of course not. However, we will regularly make reference to them as an inherent part of our Worship/Discipleship plan.

**Q. *When will Glenn leave?***

A. Glenn plans to serve in his current role until a new pastor is on site. Any overlap or future activity will depend on who God sends to us.

**Q. *Why did Mike's position as Assistant Pastor disappear in the third phase of our reorganization?***

A. The plan is to move from having an Assistant Pastor to an Associate Pastor. It would be wise to delay calling an Associate Pastor until a new Senior Pastor is chosen. At that time, he, Mike and SPEP will decide whether Mike will assume that role.

**Q. *What will happen to Coffee Fellowship?***

A. It will expand! In addition to coffee being available in the auditorium for the small groups meeting there, every class or Growth Group will have its own coffee, so we will spend time chatting and getting to know each other as part of our group time.

**Q. *When will we have our new electronic sign on Ritchie Highway?***

A. As soon as possible. Please remember that while most of the cost is covered by an unusual gift, we have borrowed a bit from our savings to cover all the cost. If you would like to help us pay ourselves back, please mark a one-time gift as "Church Sign." Thank you.

**Q. *How can I help?***

A. Think of our transition as making SPEP the most mature church plant ever attempted! The transition will be exciting and rewarding if everyone embraces modest change and dives in to help.

For example:

- If you are physically able, plan to help arrange tables and chairs.
- Volunteer for a short rotation in the nursery, or as an usher, or greeter.
- Give up "your seat." From now on, unless you have special needs, plan on sitting wherever there is room, and greet everyone around you.
- Get involved in a Sunday morning class or small group. See if you can perform a regular function like setting up coffee, bringing snacks, greeting newcomers, setup up the audio-visual equipment. Maybe it's time for you to lead or teach.
- Have fun making SPEP shine – help out with the Food Pantry, join the worship team, work in the kitchen, bring new ideas to the Missions Committee, become a regular part of our media support, join a prayer team, help the Deacons with needed maintenance – there is something for everyone.

- Make sure you are prepared to answer a newcomer who asks, "Why do you go here?"
- Enjoy the kind of music you love and also be happy as others enjoy a different style in our blend.
- Use your Spiritual Workbook and ask the Lord for one or two friends with whom you would enjoy sharing what you see God is doing.
- Ask God to do more through us for his glory than we can now imagine.