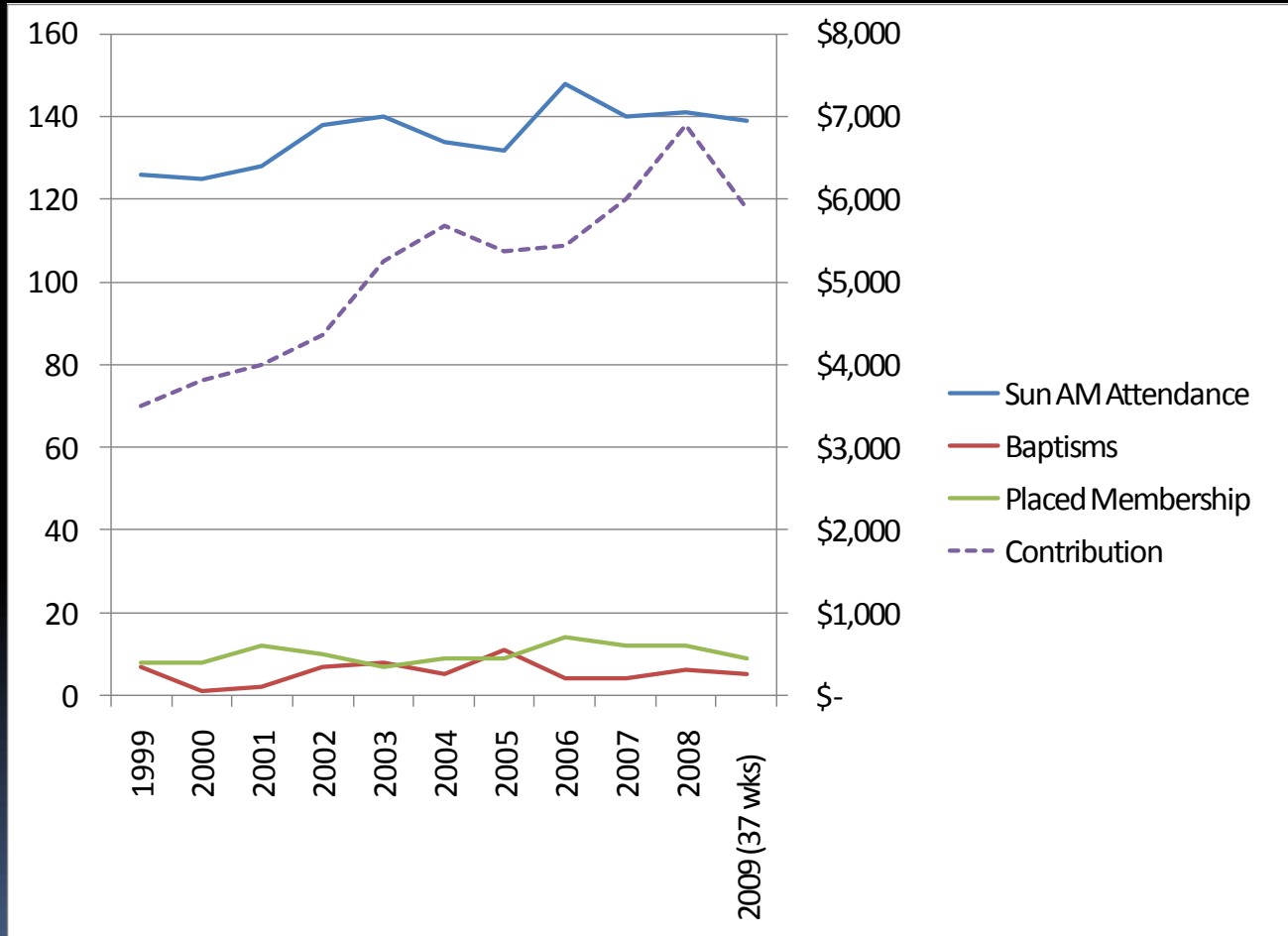




Next Steps

NORTH PENN CHURCH OF CHRIST

1999-2009



God's Vision for North Penn

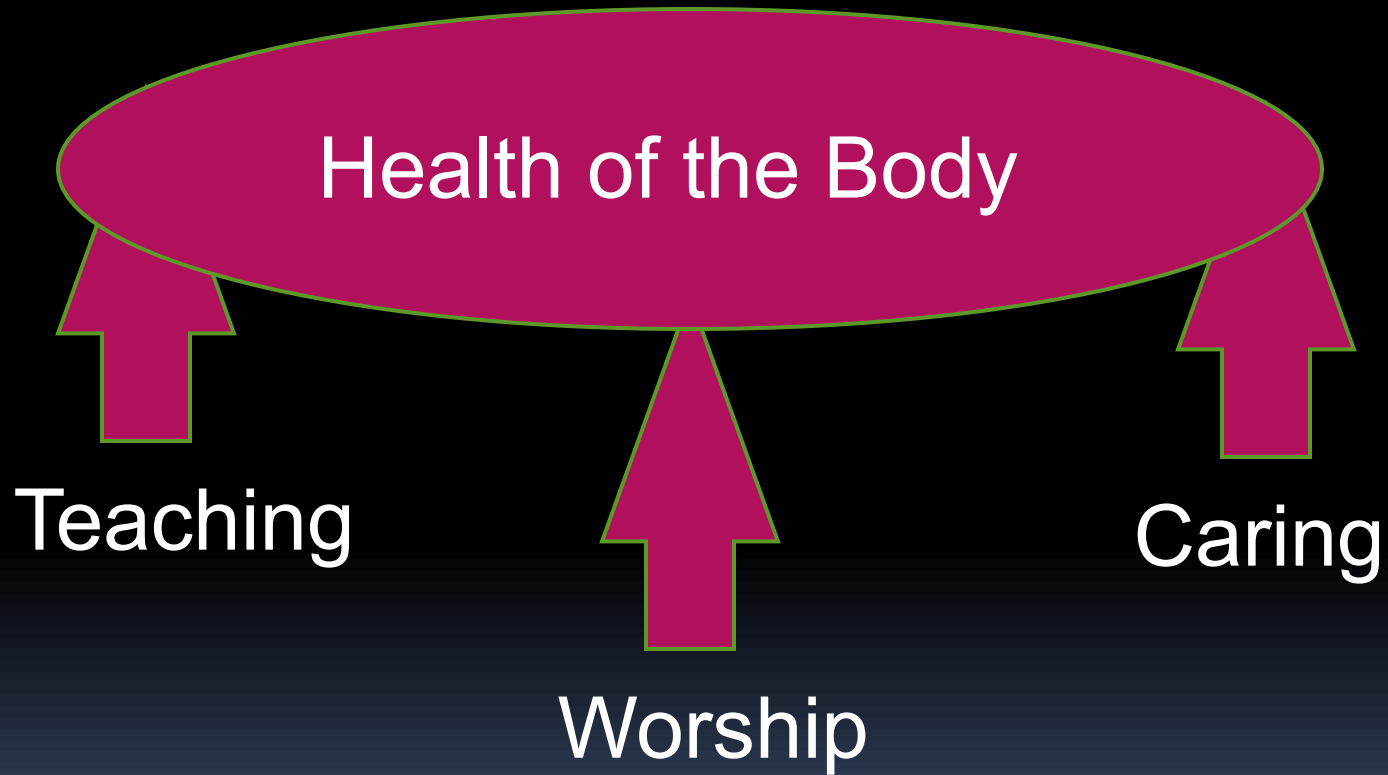
- ...To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ...he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:1-2, 6)
- Full engagement of all members
 - In God's work
 - In body life
 - Showing Christ to the world
- Growth: spiritual, numerical



Our Vision

Living by faith in Christ,
we love, serve, reflect his grace,
and lead others to him
as he leads us.

Essential Ingredients



Shepherds' Charge: Care for North Penn Body

- Acts 20:28
 - "Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood."
- Nurture, protect, and care for members
 - Lifelong learning adapted to each member
 - Put learning into action: service, evangelism
- Direct church activities
 - Spiritual validity, effectiveness
 - Coordination: priorities, resource stewardship
 - Development, energy, time, money
- Encourage Christians wherever they are.



Five Shepherds-Elders-Overseers

- Diverse gifts, experience, personalities, styles, strengths, emphasis, focus
- Experience drawn from other congregations
- Varying relationships with various members
- We are blessed with one (Dave Garrett) who works full-time, and is supported by the congregation.

What Full-Time Elder Does

- Be a shepherd—same as all elders—pastors
 - Maintain contact with members and visitors
 - Individualized care and counseling
- Involve Members
 - Lead new member orientation
 - Email chain, phone calls
- Lead Life Group ministry
- Coach, develop leaders: Life Group, deacons, other ministry leaders
- Organization
 - Manages the preaching calendar
 - Organizes various leaders' meetings.
 - Sustains relationships with supporting congregations
 - Coordinates area-wide activities: Manatawny, etc.
- Administration - manages church office
 - Mail, phone messages, letters, NP statistics

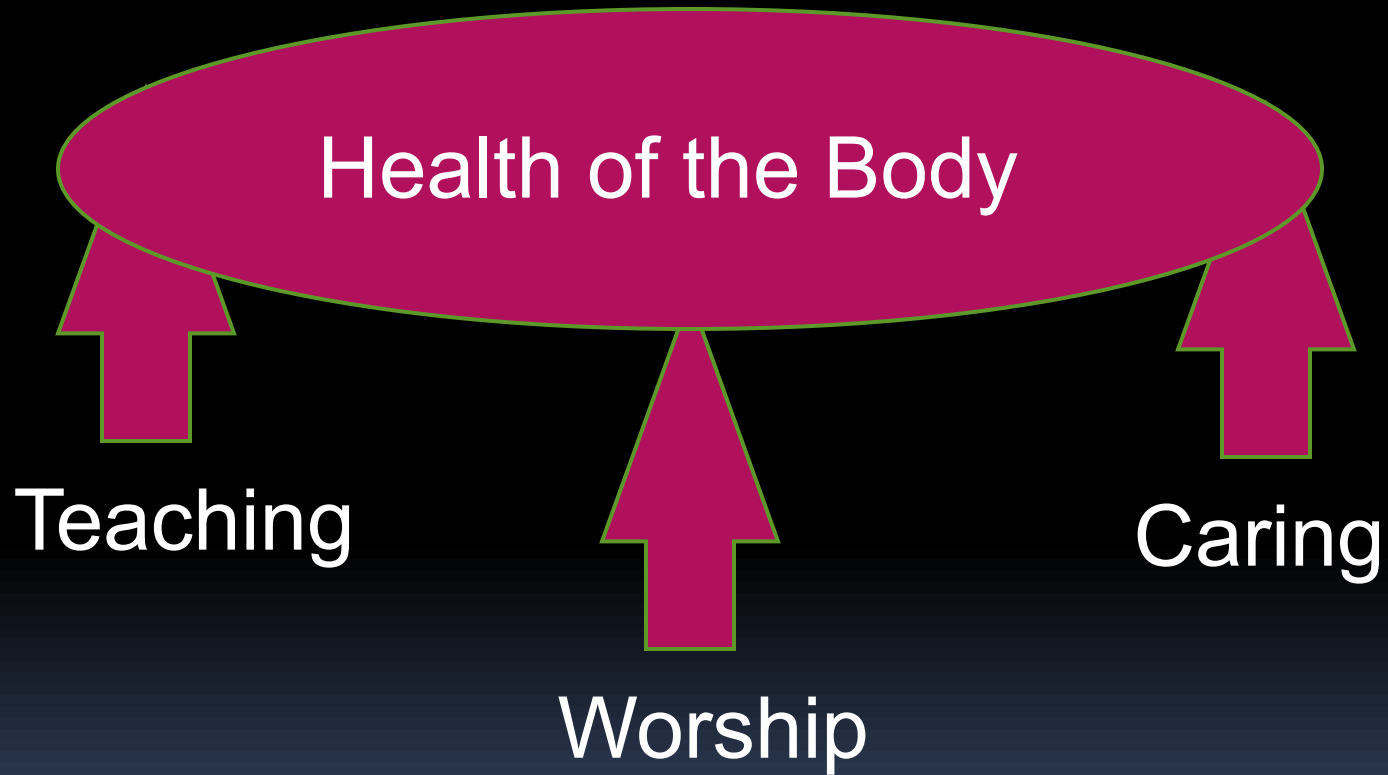
Value of Full-Time Elder

- Full-time commitment leads to more responsiveness, more consistency
- Dave Garrett's time in service (eleven years) has built great skill, deep relationships, cohesiveness in the body
- His continued performance of these responsibilities is vital to our present and future health
- This service to the church is not optional.

NPCC Preaching


- Excellent preaching is essential.
 - Strong, Biblical doctrine, faithfully demonstrated in real life, not just speaking skill.
- David White commits significant time and great skill to the preaching ministry.
- We will continue to incorporate other excellent, proven preachers into the calendar.
 - Both relief for David and opportunity for the congregation to know a range of preachers.
 - The other elders preach occasionally.
- We plan to add a full-time preacher.
 - At the right time

Essential Ingredients






We should build on what we now have.

- This body is healthy.
 - By God's grace, our future will be even more of what he desires for us.
 - Retain Dave Garrett as full-time pastor—elder
 - Add deacons and ministry leaders.
 - Add full-time preacher at the right time.
- 



Decision Framework for Hiring a Preacher

- We plan to hire a preacher when we have the financial ability to pay for another full-time worker.
 - More importantly, we must know when we have found the right one.
 - Congregational participation
 - Prayer
 - Carefully consider what is needed in our preacher.
 - What are key requirements of the man?
 - Share your thinking with the leadership
- 



Starting Today

- Share Jesus with our neighbors and friends
- Give more financially—where possible
- Expand the ranks of qualified leaders



Your Thoughts

- Pros?
 - Cons?
- 

