

## **Mount Pleasant Baptist Church**

### **Bible Institute**

#### **“Planning for Church Next”**

#### **Description**

As society continues to change and evolve, the church must follow suite to stay relevant and maintain its membership. In recent years the church has been faced with aging membership as the younger generation continues to leave the church, questioning the relevance in their lives. We have seen the pandemic cause the membership to first experience a spirit of fear and now a spirit of convenience that causes fewer opportunities for personal interactions. From a statistical perspective consider:

- Membership in houses of worship continues to decline, dropping below 50% for the first time.
- Between 2019 and 2021, the decline is about 10% for those under age 35 as well as for those over age 65.

Issues facing the church include:

- Poor discipleship models.
- Reaching a younger audience.
- Immoral behavior.
- Budget challenges.

In the midst of these challenges, the church must plan for its future to make sure that it remains relevant and serves our spiritual needs.

This table talk session will consist of a panel of church members from across the generations who will address a number of questions that will produce ideas to help develop our future.