Would Jesus Livestream?: Church, Tech, and the Post-COVID Era
West Branch Meeting of Pittsburgh Presbytery - April 2022
Presented by Rev. Brian Wallace - Associate Minister

Three Key Terms for the Conversation:

- Vision: _____ we want to see happen

- Mission: _____ we're going to do to accomplish the vision

- Strategy: _____ we're going to do what we're going to do to accomplish the vision.

Example:
Our vision is that our youth would have a passionate and consequential faith so that:
- They have a personal story about God they can share
- They have a deep connection to others in the church
- They have a sense of God-driven purpose for their lives
- They have a sense of hope about their future

Mission: In response to grace of Jesus Christ and in obedience to the Holy Spirit, our mission is to partner with families to make disciples of the youth of our community

Strategy:
- Parter well with families - students cannot be separated with from their families. Emphasize communication, care of and for parents, and parental involvement.
- Create an environment that is safe, welcoming, and engaging.
- Provide opportunities for leadership development
- Emphasize belonging over believing
- Form adult leaders who live like Jesus and love like Jesus.
- Teach students how to think, rather than just what to thing. Create an environment in which hard questions are encouraged.

This was the ministry I led…. How many references to technology do you see?

1. Our churches tend to be allergic to defining their ministry strategies - it feels too business-like. The problem. You always have a strategy - it's either _____ or _____

2. Before you figure out how to utilize technology, you must be _____ on the vision, the mission, and the strategy.
   - What do we want to happen?
   - What are we going to do?
   - How are we going to do it?

3. Technology is never the vision or the mission - it's always, at most, part of the _____

4. Technology is best used to _____ an existing strategy.

Case Study: Worship

Vision:

Mission:

Strategy:

How can technology enhance our worship experience?

<u>Case Study: Education</u>

Vision:

Mission:

Strategy:

How can technology enhance our worship experience?

<u>Case Study: Leadership</u>

Vision:

Mission:

Strategy:

How can technology enhance our worship experience?

Case Study: Service

Vision:

Mission:

Strategy:

How can technology enhance our worship experience?

Case Study:_____

Vision:

Mission:

Strategy:

How can technology enhance our worship experience?

The Ten Tech Commandments

1. The most important tech resources are _____ resources.

2. The most important tech skill is not knowing how something works, it's being able to _____ it when it doesn't work.

3. Something will _____ go wrong. It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of what.

4. Not using technology is better than using it _____

5. Quality _____. See #4.

6. The amount of money you need to spend is _____ proportional to the level of tech know-how in your community.

7. On-going _____ is more important that the initial installation and training.

8. There is a fine balance between _____ and accessibility. Don't engage or tolerate _____ shaming.

9. Tech solutions are highly and completely _____. What works one place will not work in another.

10. Tech solutions need to be _____ and revisited. Technology changes fast, and what was unthinkable two years ago is now common.