

Digital Disciples Empowering our Churches to Comfort & Lead!

A message and invitation from John Fong, The Presbytery of Carlisle's digital communication and social media consultant.

Generally, when I talk about the Digital Disciples Program I start by pointing out the high success rate and all its unique, innovative features. Recently, I was reminded by a close pastor friend that sharing why I started this program was important too. A few years ago, I saw how contentious and polarizing our country was becoming, and I answered God's call to empower our churches to comfort and lead in their communities.

John is ready to begin reviewing the online presence of our congregations. Then he'd love to offer an assessment and get you started with the Digital Disciples Program. So far, 13 congregations of our presbytery are enrolled and with John's expertise these churches are reaching more of the people of their communities *and* welcoming new visitors to worship.

John works directly with church staff and/or volunteers churches to:

a) create a Church Facebook page (if the church does not already have one);

b) train those who administer the church's use of social media with strategies and best practices for expanding the congregation's reach;

c) establish 30-day benchmarks for the number of people the church may expect to reach on-line and for visitors welcomed to the church.

Participants also learn how to track results, create super-users to maximize interaction between the church and those the church wants to reach, and use this on-line ministry as a tool to comfort and lead, within and beyond the walls of the congregation.

Congregations receive a year of support and training from John for a fee of \$500. Financial assistance is available from the presbytery. To learn more about the DD program, email johnfong@elizabethpresbytery.org To enroll your church, email <u>cheryl.galan@carlislepby.org</u> and use this <u>form</u> to indicate the payment plan of your choice.