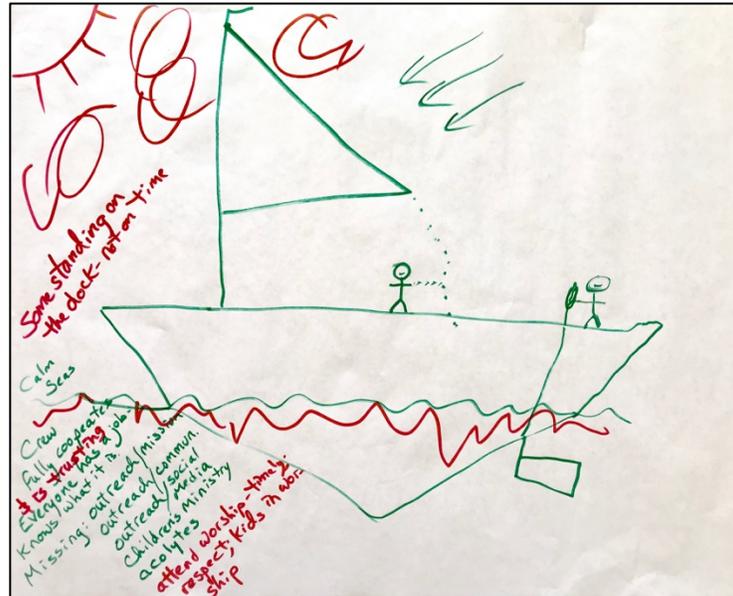
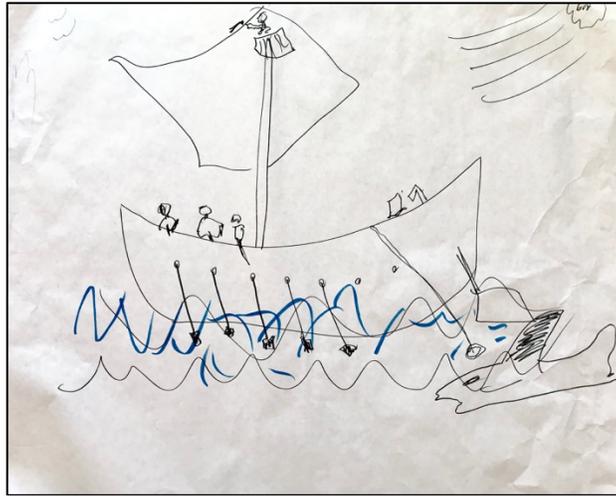


GROUP ONE



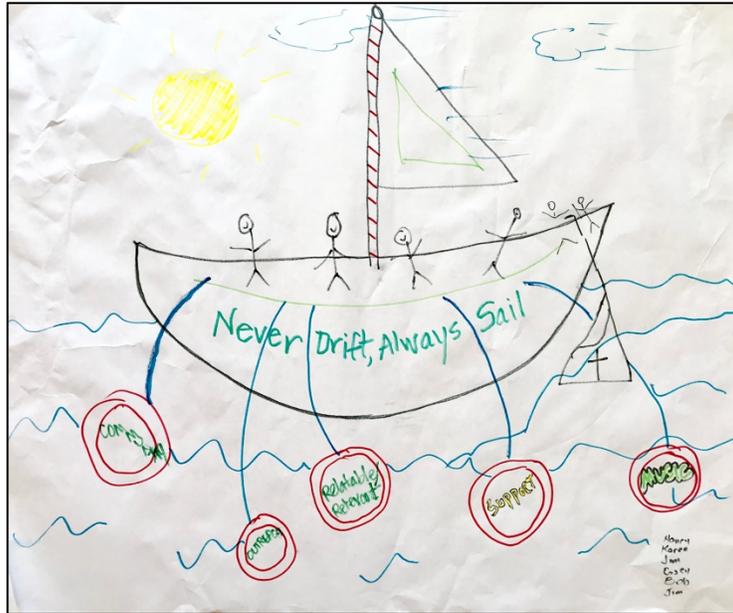
We have a sail boat. Like everybody else, the power of the wind...is provided by the Holy Spirit. We were having a late-night sailing along the coast. He did not choose to draw everything in, so these are representatives. But, we feel that the crew is altogether and fully co-operating and everybody knows what job they are to do and does it. We are trusting of each other, which is how the boat is going to sail smoothly. Missing some perhaps more mission, outreach through mission, outreach through involvement in the community, outreach through social media, children's ministry, things like that and then attendance and worship. People are respectful while they're in there. And children who are in worship aren't necessarily banned out to Sunday school. And then missing from the boat are people who are left standing on the dock, because they either just couldn't commit, or they were late.

GROUP TWO



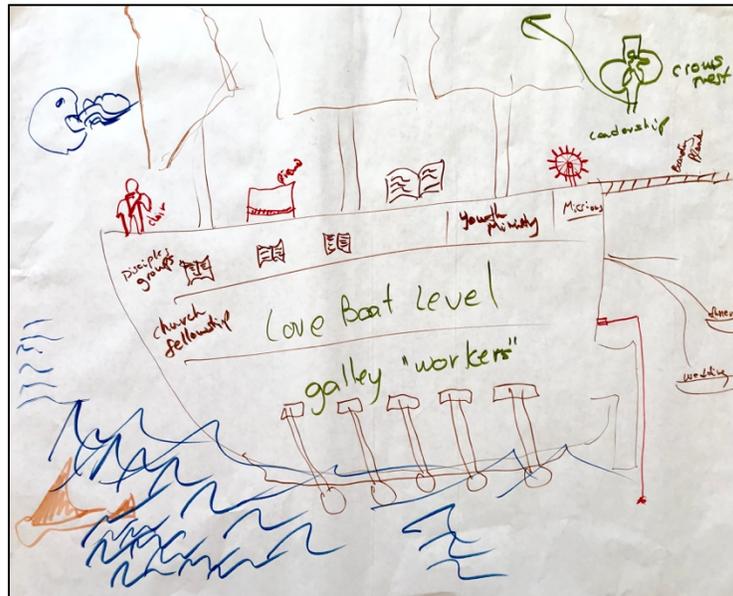
This is our crew, here. Our crew members. We have way too much fun. We have a sail. We have a guide. We don't call it a guide. But we do have one unilateral authority. Those are crew members that are rowing. And then we also have wind up here coming from God that is propelling the boat through the sail. We've got rowers. And we're missing one thing, we're missing administrator at the tiller. Ron's right there on the plank, because we do have a safety net. We have provisions to secure and make safe our group. We have a rudder. And that means we're solid. We're solid. We know where we want to go when we want to go there. Okay, and we did have a lot of fun on this, so there's God blowing through our rudder. And this is our visionary up there, and that would be me (Tina), because I want to know where we're going. How I got up there is neither here nor there, but we do have a visionary up there. Very important person. And these are the members. We didn't get very far, because these guys are impossible. It became a party ship. That's what happened. We're adrift right now. And this is the power, this is the power, up here. Apart from God being the guide, these are the women. The power is in the women. That shark in there, that's Satan. The ones that have lost their faith are overboard. There are always sharks, but it doesn't bother us. We're prepared. We're got our people. We've got our power. We've got our rudder. And we've got God to blow us out of the way. The sharks, he's down where he's supposed to be, and not to be onboard. So, we're good.

GROUP THREE



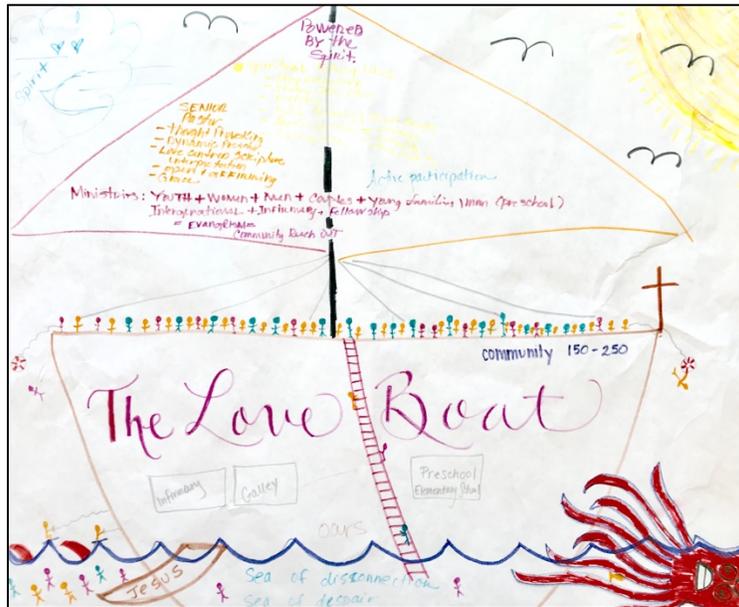
We have a sail boat with the rudder, powered by our directional sail with the cross on it, so we're Christ-led, Christ-propelled. Sailing out in choppy waters in this community of Orange County, we do have a motto, "Never drift, always sail." So, we're trying to go somewhere with purpose and direction. And we are tossing out life rings to the community and to our faith community as well. So, we do have people on the boat, but as we know, we tend to have people that fall off, so we're trying to bring people back in. So, our life rings are trying to reel in community. On the boat, we see our faith family and people that are here. We have outreached to the overall community of Newport Beach, and even coastal Orange County, or wherever. People want to come here to worship. We want to be open to them and welcome them in when they come. Our music is a huge part of our worship and fellowship here, and we're so blessed to have Rodger and the choir and everything they do for us to inspire us every Sunday and more with some of the music programming. Support is ministerial support, as well as involvement of our faith family with small groups. I don't know what the numbers are right now, but at one point, sixty or sixty-five percent of us in the congregation were involved in small groups. The church is really thriving - relatable and relevant. One thing we don't do here is act like we have all the answers. We don't cram things down people's throat and say, "it's this way or the highway." We like to consider ourselves to be relatable that we're all here, we're all seeking answers. None of us have all the answers. I think we talked about it briefly, that we need a wind. You have to have something propelling your sail boat. We're figuring God is the wind. You know, wind's not always blowing. But you know it's there, and it's coming back; if it's not there, you have to turn your sail. Sometimes you have to boomerang some. Oh, and our tiller person we think is the minister. One member may have the other member's back. Literally.

GROUP FOUR



This was truly a group thing. I think everything is on here through consensus of our group. Our boat is a square rigger. It's used to illustrate what we've arrived at here. Our boat is powered by the wind or the oars. The galley workers sometimes are also used to row the boat. Keep us going forward. What keeps us going? God's love, and of course the wind. There's the wind up here. So, who is on the boat? All who love the Lord, or want to love the Lord, or want to learn more about Him. So, who's guiding or what's guiding our boat? The Ecclesia. The number here. The congregation because we are congregationalist. What roles are people fulfilling? That's good, I never got to put anything down on that. So, one of the things is the spiritual direction, obviously. That keeps us going, but the galley workers, the rowing people, are very important. The tiller is being driven, being controlled by the leadership. The spiritual leadership comes from our hired pastor. We also have a lot of ministries here. One of those things that we talk about as disciple bands, disciple groups. These are little classrooms, books, or whatever, guiding us. There's youth ministry and prayer tree. This is missions; missions are basically the board of Christian mission. We've got the choir up here, serenading and calling us forth with the beautiful music. And then over here we've got, not attachments or annexed or whatever, but it's the weddings, memorials, and things like that where we make our place available to others to honor a beloved person, a wedding, a marriage, whatever. We have the gang plank so that when you're on the dock, you still get to get on the boat. If you want an easy way off, that's a way to get out without hanging around and causing problems. There have been some heavy winds in the past, but all you have to do is rig your sails or trim your sails and then you're fine. And the waters are getting calmer, but still the wind is strong enough for us to get where we need to go. And this is a shark down here. So, you never know what's lurking in churning waters. And that boat is the Mayflower, basically. It's a square rigger, like the pilgrims' boat. So as the wind blows, and the sails pick up, and the ship starts to lean, it stabilizes, as it's catching the wind.

GROUP FIVE



This is the love boat, courtesy of our Community Church based here in. We foresee that our boat has a community of about 150 to 250; that means we need to grow. To do that, we have a ladder down here to the sea of disconnection and sea of despair. So, we are providing passage up to the love boat for us. Our love boat has innumerable offerings. We are driven by the Holy Spirit. Jesus is our rudder. We are obviously a church of God. Some folks fall off the boat. We do send out life preservers when they do. And then, obviously, in the waters we have a constant presence of that disconnection and despair and evil. We have a galley to feed us. We have an infirmary, for when people are sick spiritually or physically and need care. And, we have a little pre-school. We're powered by the Spirit. We are led. We are committed to spiritual disciplines: We pray every day, study a portion of the scriptures each day. We commit to tithing. We are participating in small groups and Bible studies. We have greater participation and active participation by all of our members here and our boards, committees, and groups. And evangelism--this is the thing we think is really missing for us. We need to first obviously figure out our health and build our boat strongly, but then we do need to reach out. We have an immediate community here where plenty of people are feeling disconnected and in despair that we could perhaps be a home for. We see a senior pastor as part of our guide, we like that phrase you use there, and obviously someone who is a thought-provoking, dynamic presenter; love-centered, spiritual, and strong with scriptural interpretation. We are an open and affirming church. We are led by grace. I don't know that we all articulate that enough as a body, but that is who we are in our hearts. We all don't have to agree with each other, but we are all very open to each other. We see strong ministries in youth, women, men, couples, young families, moms, pre-school, as well as an intergenerational ministry. And then the infirmary and fellowship here. If we're going to remain who we are and grow, we really got to build in an Evangelism and community reach out, so our ladder is big and strong, so we can pull people up and out of the sea and onto our love boat.

