



Brandyn Simmons Bio

Brandyn Simmons, MBA, MGCM, MDiv., PCC is a UCC pastor, geriatric care manager, and executive coach. He works with churches and judicatory bodies on projects of revitalization, conflict transformation, visioning, caregiver education, executive coaching, leadership training, and more.

After doing his MBA in Japan and working as a consultant, Brandyn did his masters degree in geriatrics and eventually went on to seminary. During this time, he completed his training to become a Professional Certified Coach and changed his model of change from one of solving problems to one of creating dreams and building on strengths. He has specialized training in Appreciative Inquiry, Conflict Transformation, Transitions and Transitional Models, Systems Theories and other organization development tools. Most recently, he completed his training to become a Master Certified Coach. He is currently doing doctoral work in community organizing.

In his coaching, leadership development, and organization development practice, Brandyn also works with non-profits and health care organizations (long term care, hospice, hospitals) to help them become their best and truest selves. He has spoken and presented at numerous venues such as UCC General Synod, Conference Annual Meetings, CHHSM Annual Meeting, and other non-UCC forums.

Brandyn is passionate about his three children, building the Beloved Community, hiking, writing, and staying curious.

Appreciative Inquiry Timeline

1. **Basics of Appreciative Inquiry (AI)** May 22, 2021
 - Explain AI process - commissioning small group shepherds, etc.
 - 5 Ds of AI
 - Defining Appreciative Topic
 - Distribute Small Group Questionnaires
2. **Discovery** June 12, 2021
 - Coaching session around where God has been at work in conference and in camp.
 - Look at questionnaire responses and see what narrative(s) emerges
3. **Dream** June 26, 2021
 - Discern how to co-create viable future with God in light of stories and where God has been at work
 - General coaching session to create shift in thinking and open minds to new ideas and awarenesses
 - Give instructions for small groups to create ideas for camp going forward
4. **Dream Summit** - July 24, 2021 - This summit will be the place where each small group will present their ideas for the camps going forward. Ideas will be voted upon and the top three (or so) will be selected for a feasibility study. A Proposal Team will be commissioned who will determine the financial cost, people hours, opportunity cost, etc. of proceeding with each of the selected ideas.
5. **Design** - August 7, 2021 - This will be a check-in general coaching session to gauge where the team is at and how the progress is going. It will also be a time for working out the ideas and making them clearer.
6. **Co-Creation Summit** - August 21, 2021 - This is where the Proposal Team comes back with their findings on each of the ideas and everyone votes on one direction forward. An Implementation/Delivery Team is then formed EVERYBODY who has been involved in the process will have buy-in for both the selected path forward and for contributing to seeing to fruition.
7. **Deliver** - September 11, 2021 - This is the final coaching session and any last-minute ideas or potential hurdles to the chosen idea are worked through together to ensure the success of the project.