

VISION PLAN OUTBRIEF

May 9, 2017





Vision Plan Communication

- Meetings

- Vision Plan meetings were held 3-20-17, 3-27-17 and 4-30-17 to disseminate the details of the plan to the congregation and solicit their input.

- Survey

- ✓ A survey was handed out at the 4-30-17 meeting and was also included as a Bulletin insert on 4-30-17. The congregation was requested to fill out the survey and place it in the offering plate during either the 4-30-17 or 5-7-17 Worship Service offering.

- E-mail

- ✓ The Vision Plan presentation, along with a copy of the survey, was e-mailed to the congregation on 5-1-17.
- ✓ Addressees were requested to review the presentation, fill out the survey, and place it in the offering plate during the 5-7-17 Worship Service offering or e-mail their responses to the Office.

Vision Plan Meetings

- Meeting Attendance
 - ✓ 54 different people attended the three meetings
 - ✓ 15 attendees had already seen the presentation at the Church Council meeting
 - ✓ 39 attendees were “at large” congregation members
- Filling one key vacant position can provide the vitality that will bring about change (i.e. Communication Chair). Complete
- Put Vision Team survey in the Bulletin. Complete
- Send Vision Team PowerPoint to congregation via e-mail. Complete
- Can we present a shortened version of the presentation after Worship service as a town hall meeting? Complete
- Why not install real basketball goals in the parking lot for the neighborhood kids? Taking an immediate action like this would show the congregation that we are serious about enacting change. Complete
- Create a more enthusiastic Worship Service. Use our most articulate speakers as worship leaders. Will free up Reggie to focus on the sermon and gospel. We are fortunate to have a Pastor who is preaching the gospel and getting the message of Jesus out. Started.
- Use color copies for the Bulletin and inserts. Started.
- Can we present a shortened version of the presentation in Church on Sunday?

Vision Plan Meetings

- Print and snail mail Vision Team PowerPoint to members of congregation that are not currently attending. Try to motivate them to return by showing them we are serious about making changes.
- Spiritual gift inventory. Meet with the person to explain their gift and not only help them plug into a ministry, but have a ministry for them to plug into.
- Formally “Adopt A School”. Tyler Elementary would be a good candidate. Due to socio-economic factors, there is a large turnover at John Tyler and a great opportunity for us to help.
- On the priority list, start the “Need A Meal” program next year. Do we really need to wait 5 years to get contemporary service up and running?
- Include “Rise Against Hunger” as one of our missions.
- Assign new members a “mentor” to help them integrate into the life of the church. New member couples would be assigned a mentor couple.
- Have dinners for eight where four couples host a dinner and rotate the location each month to get to know each other better.
- Implement a shepherding program.
- Host a neighborhood picnic. Cook hot dogs for the community as a way of letting them know we are here. Gives us the opportunity to disseminate information about the church.
- Take ministry into public places in Hampton. Singing, guitar playing at the beach to attract people to our message.

Vision Plan Meetings

- Focus on attracting new people into the church. That way we will have the resources needed for the programs we want to enact for young adults and children.
- Small groups, special interest groups, study groups. Have options for shut-ins who can't attend in person.
- Transportation. Have a bus for the homebound. Take programs into the community.
- Consider using RightNow Media. A \$1,500 yearly subscription allows all church members to access Bible Study video material.
- Bring the young people into the conversation of building new programs. Is a contemporary service what they really want?
- Suggest a strong leader to help the young adults develop a small group.
- Place small St. Mark's UMC sign on Curle Road side of church.
- Use a telephone tree in addition to e-mail and Facebook.
- Hearing impaired appliances for individual use in the Sanctuary.
- The "evergreens" of the church (those who are always there) need to convince others that our vision can be implemented.
- This is not an end all program. The vision will evolve and it needs to be reviewed regularly to determine if a program or ministry is working or if we need to go in another direction.



Vision Plan Survey

- Survey Participation

- ✓ 7 people responded to the survey

- Small Groups

- Need more emphasis on Sunday School

- We have good Sunday School classes. Don't change them.

- Make use of resources like The Purpose Driven Life

- Grief support group

- Care-giver support group

- Mission study groups

- Bible study groups

- New Testament Bible Study group

- Quilting groups

- **Painting groups – Already have paint night**

- Religious theme movie/video discussion group

- Study groups based on each religious season

- Set groups and let the group pick the subject to be studied

- Family covered dish dinners. Even if we don't have a program it would still be a time for fellowship and getting know each other.

Vision Plan Survey

➤ Missions

- Elders of the church need nurture/lead the youth
- Continue USDA, Night's Welcome and Trunk or Treat
- Need more "themed" events like Trunk or Treat to get the neighborhood involved
- Need to find ways of inviting the surrounding community to participate in Worship service
- Have outreach programs for all families in the neighborhood around us. We need to reach single family homes with children.
- Send out welcome letter and follow up with new families in our neighborhoods.



Vision Plan Survey

➤ Communication

- Senior citizens still like printed communication
- Lay Leadership Committee needs to make a printed list of Church officers available so members of the congregation know who to contact when they have ideas/concerns
- Need to get back to sending out meeting reminders via snail mail as well as e-mail.
- Form a group to call people who miss several weeks in a row to check on them to show them we care about what is going on in their lives
- Use the marker for long term communication; e-mail or phone for short term communication
- Everyone who responded said they like e-mail as a form of communication. Second most mentioned was Facebook.
- Send cards/make phone calls to people who are sick, had surgery, or are shut ins. We have a volunteer for this idea.



Vision Plan Survey

➤ Worship

- Greeters make you feel welcome as soon as you walk in the Narthex
- Would like to see a new contemporary service with more energy than a blended service. Realize we need a new staff member to head this up.
- Less standing and singing.
- Show more respect for the pastor. Need to be in the Sanctuary and seated at 10:00, not talking in the Narthex.
- Need more volume from the sound system. Having trouble hearing the pastor during the sermon.
- We have a good worship service. Praise team, liturgists, sermons and including the children in the service all make for a good worship experience.



Recommendations

- Priority Actions To Take Now
 - ✓ Assign a Communications Chairperson – Complete
 - ✓ Request Finance Committee to increase current funding (\$200) of line item 310 (Communications)
 - ✓ Request Staff/Pastor-Parrish Relations Committee fill the position of Hospitality Coordinator. We need a staff person to provide leadership for our new ministries and act as the glue that holds it together



Recommendations

➤ Actions For The Next Few Months

- ✓ Perform a Spiritual Gift Inventory/Talent/Interest Survey
- ✓ Start Hospitality Ministry-Internal/External
- ✓ Implement Small Groups
- ✓ Invest in improved event signage - Working
- ✓ Start new member orientation class
- ✓ Start quarterly congregation gathering
- ✓ Install basketball goals in parking lot - Complete
- ✓ Partner with John Tyler Elementary School
- ✓ Host a neighborhood picnic
- ✓ Start New Bible Study
- ✓ Offer new 6 week study based Sunday school class
- ✓ Develop new Marker/Bulletin – Marker revised



Recommendations

➤ Actions To Take in The Next Year

- ✓ Implement a new member mentoring program
- ✓ *Start a weekly community “Need-A-Meal” program
- ✓ Include “Rise Against Hunger” as one of our missions
- ✓ **Create a more enthusiastic Worship Service using our most articulate speakers as worship leaders - Started**
- ✓ **Implement a Shower Ministry in conjunction with Night’s Welcome
- ✓ Start monthly Dinner/Movie night
- ✓ Implement Electronic Giving
- ✓ Start Using UMCmarket
- ✓ Conduct necessary facility repairs

*Apply for Conference Sustaining Program Grant

** Apply for Conference Special Program Grant

➤ Actions To Take in The Next Three Years

- ✓ Start an alternative Contemporary Worship Service

