

Statement and narrative approved at Congregational Meeting on January 13, 2019. The detailed breakdown of each item is from the Vision Committee Report, dated Oct 29, 2018.

St. John's makes disciples for Christ of all ages by deepening relationships and developing leaders who serve God and neighbors.

By God's grace, St. John's members and attendees will deepen our relationship with God through daily awareness of God's presence, love, and guidance. In the next ten years, we will develop and deepen relationships of all ages within the congregation. We will equip people of all ages to take responsibility for God's work. We will share our faith in God by serving our neighbors, showing God's love to others. In order to make this vision a reality, we will communicate effectively using multiple media inside and outside the congregation and develop a property plan.

1. Deepen our relationship with God: daily awareness of God's presence, love, and guidance

- a. Individual Relationships with God: Provide programs similar to Faith 5, 40 Days of Prayer, prayer emails, Advent and Lenten devotions to bring faith activities and mindfulness of God in the home.
- b. Group relationships with God: Insure that each group spends time in prayer, that is, each meeting intentionally brings God into the work of the group.
- c. Congregational Relationship with God: Provide activities that bring different generations together to learn from each other (for example, Vacation Bible School, Advent Family Night; Intergenerational Sunday School)

2. Develop and deepen relationships within the congregation

- a. Every member accepts responsibility for greeting people they don't know and repeating those contacts.
- b. Create new groups and promote existing groups with goal for 50% of members to be involved in some kind of small group (for example, Bible Study, Property Work Group, Men's Breakfast, Cursillo Grouping, Committees; New Groups such as: Neighborhood Groups, LifeGroups, Discipleship Group, ChristCare, etc.) Existing groups (for example, Bible Studies) make time to get to know each other.
- c. Match existing member ("mentor") to each new member to worship together, get to know each other over the first six months. Have social gathering for mentors and new members.
- d. More social opportunities to gather people from different services to get to know each other.
- e. Food for fellowship time every Saturday before 5:30 service; after 8:30am Sunday and after 11am Sunday.
- f. Build a fellowship hall/extended narthex (1) to provide more space for people to visit after worship, (2) to allow larger special services & receptions, and (3) to be open for community

use (larger outreach or service events such as South Sudanese Community, Wings of Peace serving meals, or iHelp services to homeless).

3. Equip people of all ages to take responsibility for God's work

- a. Develop a leadership growth process, discovering people's passions and gifts, inspiring stories or examples of impact. Communicate clearly that each member is needed; follow up quickly when people express interest.
- b. Ask each leader to adopt a personal growth goal each year to increase leadership abilities. For example, improving skills leading a meeting; thanking people who have given of their time and talents; etc.
- c. Use phone/internet conference calls in meetings to involve more people in decision making. Use social media to connect leaders together.
- d. Break leadership positions down into smaller responsibilities and focus on existing leaders delegating these.
- e. Expand youth opportunities for leadership with Sunday School, VBS, and Camp as deliberate part of leadership development. Create significant opportunities for youth to accept leadership (for example, Social Media Specialist).
- f. Hire paid part-time Christian Ed/Youth Lay Minister.

4. Share our faith in God by serving our neighbors, showing God's love to others.

- a. Deepen involvement with efforts to end homelessness in Glendale; for example, partner with other congregations to provide iHelp; help lead for temporary housing in downtown Glendale.
- b. Build relationships with community leaders to listen for new ways to serve the community.
- c. More cross cultural events, especially with Emmanuel, that involve sharing faith and deepening relationships.
- d. Strengthen existing events to connect them to Christian faith (for example, Water Carnival, Trunk-or-Treat).
- e. Strengthen support for Food Pantry and Food Sustainability efforts for chronic needs.

5. Communicate effectively using multiple media (print, phone, email, Facebook, other social media) both inside and outside the congregation.

- a. Emphasize frequent communication and different media, including strengthening existing website and social media for broader outreach.
- b. Make podcasts of services available, including announcements.

6. Develop a long term property plan that fits this vision

- a. Increase "Curb appeal" so that St. John's is more noticeable and welcoming. (For example, lighting the cross at night; new sign on 51st Ave.) Plan for long-term maintenance needs.