



Update on Envision

June 2015

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 12 No. 6

The Mission of Envision is to:

- build authentic community by:
- proclaiming the gospel
- and making disciples of Jesus Christ
- within the downtown culture of Bellingham
- as a church missionary effort working in conjunction with local churches.

(Goals/Values and Budget Report Available Upon Request)

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Praises and Prayer Requests

In actual fact, only part of the Senti family was able to play at the open mic at the April 23 show. Mitchell and Johnathon played a duo because the rest of the family was sick, but it was still a blast and we were happy to see many friends there.

About three months ago on a street night, one of the groups went out and shared the Word with a man who had recently been kicked out of the Jehovah's Witness church. The folks that shared with him tried to reason with him that Jesus is God, but on that score he would not budge. So we prayed that he would have a revelation of Jesus Christ for all that He is, and the man agreed to that, calling himself a truth-seeker. Well, just recently he came up to a couple of us at the end of street night in his wheel chair and explained that he had been given two visions from God, confirming the truth of Jesus Christ and His Word. At one point the man was playing piano and began singing and the Holy Spirit came upon him in power so that he sang in tongues and he said it was more his music than anything he'd ever written himself. He explained that this was because when a person loses themselves in Jesus they find themselves all the more. **He praised**



second shift for the night.

Jesus as the glorious Son of God and part of the Trinity of the Godhead and we marveled at the change in his heart. But he also wept that he could be deceived by a false teaching for so much of his life. He again sang at open mic recently. But **pray that he will enter into the Body of Christ** because he may well have fears of being controlled by religion and needs to see that fellowship in the Church is not about control, but encouragement and accountability in a healthy sense. Pictured left is the street night team praying at the Woods before going out on a

Heath Oberlander is our first Stephen minister and what a wonderful job he is already doing, helping folks with emergency food, shelter and bills when they legitimately need the help. He even has his own phone as part of the ministry. Pray that he can demonstrate Christ's love through this new task and others with him, who we are considering for similar tasks, that the LORD would give us all discernment if they ought to join us and receive some wages for their work. If you'd like to give towards Heath, just put Stephen ministry on a separate note from your check and we'll be sure it goes towards his work. Our benevolence fund is always in need of replenishment as well, so if you'd like to give towards that you may as well.

While we rejoice when reconciliations take place between folks that come to the Jesus Gathering, we also recognize the fragility of some of our people as the enemy seeks to steal, kill and destroy. Yet the LORD gives **abundant life to us who are willing** and even as some folks are held accountable for their actions, we see growth in Christ.

Pray also for the many folks who need work, housing, budgeting wisdom and a sense of worth through it all that comes from the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Board:

Elders and their wives:

Mitchell and Rochelle Senti,
Bernie and Mary Brower

Treasurer/Elder:

Dan Obbink

Deacon:

Linda Hammingh,

Bookkeeper: Karen

Kooistra

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:20-21

We appreciate your generosity so much! (Mitchell doesn't see how much each of you gives, but he sees who gives.)

If you'd like to make a donation, please send checks to: Envision Mission, 710 E. Sunset, Bellingham, WA 98225

We've had more opportunities to pray with the management at the Villa and have **been praying about the possibility of doing a Bible Study there** or at least in that area. Maybe we could do so in conjunction with some other local churches. Pray for wisdom for us on that idea as well.

Deborah Reese wrote and directed a play for the Jesus Gathering from the Bible called David and Goliath which was played by various folks from the church. It was a lot of fun and portrayed the message of God's power and the importance of faith in a very effective way. These are some pictures from that play.



We've been praying about whether to take on a second Stephen Minister especially to help us start a men's group on Thursday nights. He would do one on one ministry, help with day to day set up and take down and mercy ministry type needs in the church as well. Please pray for wisdom for us as we consider this exciting possibility.

We still often struggle with whether the Jesus Gathering is becoming a viable church, providing the adequate support, stability, and service which is needed for our current body to grow in Christ. One of the more effective means of church we've found has been the house church model. There seems to be a more healthy balance in that setting for folks to grow and have a model for healthy Christian living. One of the ideas we've been praying about is to expand the house church model and focus more on plugging our friends into house churches. The Jesus Gathering is often draining for the leadership, but we still think it vital to have some kind of larger gathering for folks to come to. Yet we wonder how we could make it more life-giving to all involved. Please keep us in prayer as we seek to discern these things.

Here is our weekly schedule:

Tuesday: Street night from 5:15-8:15pm at Woods on Bay and Prospect.

Wednesday: Jesus/Bible Study at Lincoln Square at 3pm and the Woods at 7pm.

Thursday: Open mic at the Majestic from 7:30pm-10pm.

Friday: Ladies meeting at Woods from 12:30-2:30pm. Prayer at Prayer Center from 3-5.

Saturday: House church at the Brower's at 8:30am and at the Senti's at 9:30am

Sunday: The Jesus Gathering meets at the Majestic from 4:30pm-6:30pm.