

October 2016

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 13 No. 10

Praises and Prayers

Update on Envision

The experiment has begun and the need for more house churches becomes apparent, so **pray for us to be able to multiply those and in the process that more folks will come to know Christ and be disciples of His**. We do still desire to have a Thanksgiving and Christmas celebration in November and December, so if you're interested in helping with that let us know. By the end of October we will have had a Reformation Day gathering too on a Sunday night, so it's been good to get together as a community for events and have less programs so far already.



Pictured above is some of our Jesus Gathering crew that put on meals and do hospitality, led by Mitzie and Linda. What fun we all have serving there!

We did put on the meal at Loaves and Fishes ministry at 1st Baptist on the 20th, which was an excellent time with Mitzie, **one of our Stephen Ministers leading the charge along** with many volunteers from Envision. Churches take turns putting that meal on for the homeless on Tuesday nights at 5:30-6:30pm. That has been a special place for us to visit our homeless friends on Street nights every week. We're so thankful for them.

We are happy to announce that the **LORD** has provided a donor to support another **Stephen Minister from October through December of 2017!** He is going to help us with mercy ministry and another Jesus Study that we hope will become a house church in the future. We still need a donor to commit to another Stephen Minister named Jon Ng who leads Rising Hope Ministries and will be joining us in our work on Street nights.

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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"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 Another Stephen Minister, Morgan West, has started to lead the men's group as of September in addition to his mercy ministry work! What a blessing he has been already and we do see a lot of leadership potential in him as well.

The Ladies meeting is actually starting in October with the other current Stephen Minister, Mitzie Crosser leading that. Thank you for praying that God would raise up workers for the harvest- what a blessed answer to prayer these folks have been!

Street night continues to be a way for us to proclaim the Gospel. One young man was enjoying the view at Maritime Heritage Park and we asked him if he knew Jesus. He answered a typical secular American answer, which we listened to for a long while, but then we shared the Gospel that we had been sent to proclaim Christ's love for him and His desire to know this young man. He listened respectfully, but did not respond in faith. We will continue to proclaim the Gospel as God gives opportunity whether or not people respond, but please pray that they will!

On another occasion we went to bring a guitar to one of our talented musician friends who is homeless and has come to the Jesus Gathering and heard the Gospel personally with some positive response. He received the guitar with joy, but then another friend brought us her guitar. One of our street acquaintances committed suicide recently and he gave her this guitar by UPS to Mt. Vernon just before he died. She asked if we could fix it, so we said yes. Then Mitchell got out his own guitar and began to play songs of the LORD for our homeless friends who were there at the park. It was the night of guitars right there on the streets, all in Jesus' Name. They listened with joy. One man asked for food and we gave him a New Testament and sang Jesus Loves You to him, which made him chuckle and he received it happily. We really believe the LORD could raise up some worship times and Jesus Studies right there on the streets, since that is where our friends live, and it could be a great opportunity to make disciples of Jesus. Pray that this door will open also.

The Lincoln Square house church is now on Wednesdays and is led by Bernie Brower at 3pm. We'd like to start one at Regency Park Apartments as well, but pray that the door will open. The Senti's still have a house church and we will still be meeting once a month at the Majestic, so thank you for your prayers as we move forward with this experiment!

Here is our weekly schedule:

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

Wednesday: House church at Lincoln Square at 3pm.

Thursday: Men's group at Tim P's at 5pm- contact us for directions.

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

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

Sunday: The Jesus Gathering meets at the Majestic from 4:30pm-6:30pm on the 2nd

Sunday of the month.