



Update on Envision

December 2021

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 18 No. 12

The Mission of Envision is to:

- build authentic community by:
- proclaiming the gospel
- and making disciples of Jesus Christ
- in Whatcom County
- especially 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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www.envisionmission.org/senti

Praise the LORD for what He has done!

Our vision for the year was: **Christ and Him crucified**. We resolved that the central focus would be the Gospel: **to preach it, live it, disciple people to it**. It seemed as though God kept us on that track.

We started the year with Cal Buys and Rob Smit taking up the weekly charge to lead Street night, to share the Gospel by giving out needed items to the homeless, build relationship with them, pray with folks and share as the opportunities arose. Many joined in that endeavor, sometimes as many as 20 folks on a given Tuesday night. Through Street Night the Gospel was shared in many ways and often, sometimes New Testaments were given with explanations of Christ, other times very deep conversations on why human beings are here and how God became a man, died for our sins, and rose from death to give life to any who would believe and receive Him. One man got off the street, renewed his faith in a miraculous display of God's grace when he had been cursing God only days before. **He is now working almost full time and attending United Reformed Church in Lynden a year later.**

One of the graduates from the Summit house in Bellingham went from living in his car and using a stove and cooler donated by one of you to living in an apartment, working full time and regularly attending New Song church and is still a greeter there on Sundays. One of the other graduates plans to join him, but is currently living in Arizona, walking with the LORD, and participating in a church there. He has returned to Bellingham in the summers on internships and leads a group he calls, "Come and Join the Circle", which has also been attended by wonderful folks from Love Inc and the Jesus Taxi on Thursday nights. **We asked you to pray for more men to come and the Bellingham house filled up with men** from the Lighthouse Mission who have been doing so well, attending church, gaining relationships, working hard and staying in discipleship.

God also raised up a Summit house in Lynden and that has since filled up also. There are always bumps in the road. Sometimes a guy has to be asked to leave, but we try to stay in relationship with them even so. Also the Bridges of Hope house is doing a similar model. Hope in Christ helps us with discipleship partners for the Bellingham house. 2nd CRC helps us with the Lynden house. And now Third CRC is going to intentionally come alongside Bridges of Hope house that is taking on a similar model to us. Thank you also for donating items to the houses!

The BTC SALT outreach has done a podcast and some unofficial meetings with students behind the scenes due to the pandemic, but **in that process an Iranian man came to Christ, another man started attending house churches**, and a number of others have heard the Gospel and considered its call on their lives. The podcast was a God-given strategy this past year in reaching students and now that BTC has opened up to 600 students on campus, we've had meetings at Starbucks where more and more students are attending, growing in faith and hearing the Gospel.

A young man who had suicidal depression, especially during the worst of the pandemic, not only survived through it, but **was baptized at Hillcrest after doing baptism class with us** and

**Board:
Elders and their
wives:**
Mitchell and Rochelle
Senti,
Bernie and Mary
Brower

Elder/Pastor: Ben
deRegt

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Obbink

**Advisory Deacon and
deaconesses:**
Rustin Polinder and
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

Our vision: to seek the
face of Jesus!

has since grown immensely in his faith and in peace of mind through Christ. Even our prayer meeting on Fridays became a place where folks would encounter the power of the Holy Spirit, **confess sins, recommit their lives to Christ** and be prayed for healing from anxiety, depression and demonic oppression.

With Men's group and Jesus Studies, the Gospel also continued to be proclaimed in small group settings of discipleship. A group of students joined us on a special street ministry day and **some of our homeless friends received healing**, others helped at Base camp.

The LORD provided a new 12 Step leader after Jim Stitt had moved away. Josiah Heinz immediately stepped in and has been facilitating ever since. He has also since been hired to help us in keeping in touch with discipleship partners for the Summit house.

Envision has **also been used by the LORD to provide bikes, phones, and assistance for folks who are looking for work, housing and gas for their vehicles.** Two of our friends received donations of vehicles to help them move forward in their lives.

God has opened the door on more than one occasion for us to do trainings at local churches on hospitality to the poor and discipleship partnership, including 1st Reformed, Hope in Christ, 2nd Christian Reformed, and 3rd Christian Reformed Churches.

Some of our staff and partner house church elders attended a conference on making disciples by “Crazy Love” in affiliation with Francis Chan.

We had a wonderful concert of worship and music from the Senti's at 1st Reformed Church in August, even raising some funds for the ministry at the same time. The new CD “Songs of Joy” was released and in the process **the man who recorded the CD came to know Christ**, as did our landlord at the Majestic in this past year.

The Envision staff and primary volunteers **enjoyed an amazing retreat at Cedar Springs** on our theme, Christ and Him Crucified. Even our first discipleship partner from Hope in Christ joined us there and now there are discipleship partners for every guy in the house. We're praying for one more for each of them as well and in many cases that is happening. Our partnership with the Lighthouse Mission has become invaluable as graduates from their Ascent program have joined our houses and we've so appreciated having these wonderful men join us. There is still a need for one month of sponsorship for one man who had heart trouble and couldn't work this past month, but we are confident the LORD will provide that for us.

This year even though the Senti family (and other staff members) got COVID, they also had the amazing experience of going to Kansas and Zuni and doing ministry in those places as well as the blessing of moving to the county this year! **What a blessing this has been.**

What a blessing this whole year has been and God has been more than faithful!

Our Weekly Schedule:

Tuesday: Street Night Tuesdays (5:30-7:15pm), starts at 1st Baptist on 110 Flora St.

Thursday: Men's group at Woods Barkley at 7am.

Friday: Prayer at the Light of the World Prayer Center (3-5pm)

Saturday: House churches meet

Sunday: Jesus Gathering at Hope in Christ on the 2nd Sunday of each month (5pm) Jesus Study at the Majestic all other Sundays (5pm)