



Update on Envision

March 2022

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 19 No. 3

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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Following Jesus' Vision

One of the highlights of the week is Street night on Tuesday nights. We'd love to have you join us at 5:30pm on 110 Flora St. at 1st Baptist some time. We always do an orientation on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, so that would be a good time to come for starters. It is always a blast! This past Tuesday was no exception. One of our Summit house guys came along and spread the tangible hope of the Gospel with those he talked with, that they could come out of their plight just as he did, through Jesus Christ and His people. One of the young men who joined prayed with a man to find a church --many were believers just needing fellowship. One young lady asked for prayer and items to help her as she had no socks in the cold weather. Another man and woman approached and asked also. She explained how difficult it is for women who live on the streets in terms of danger and safety. There were **over 20 volunteers joining us. God is surely raising up workers for the harvest!** Thank you for your prayers to that end. Pray that the Gospel will continue to go forth. It has been especially cold on the streets lately, so all the more important that we go out with socks, blankets, and love to those who are out there and build trust in Jesus' Name.



Those who volunteer often ask, "what's the next step for these people?" We usually answer that we should invite them to go to Base Camp at the Lighthouse Mission. But once there we should pray that the men will be ready for the Mission's Ascent program and the women ready for the Agape House. **Once they graduate from there we hope to raise up more Summit houses for these folks** by God's grace. Once in a Summit house a particular church will come alongside them, so that when they move out they have a support system that will last beyond their graduation.

Board:
Elder/Pastors:
Mitchell Senti, Ben
deRegt

Treasurer/Elder: Dan
Obbink

Advisory Deacon:
Rustin Polinder

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!

A little preview of next year's vision: **Our hope for 2023 is to focus entirely on Summit houses.** In the meantime our goals for 2022 remain the same for BTC outreach, continued Street nights (which will continue in some way into next year also) and small groups like the Jesus Study, Men's group and our prayer meeting.

The men in the two existing Summit houses are moving forward strongly, getting work, and plugging into church community. Pray this can just continue more and more! It seems clear that at least two of the men in our houses either came to Christ or recommitted their lives to Christ as a result of being in the Summit houses' program. That is called eternal fruit and we are so grateful to be a part of what God is doing. Thank you for partnering with us in this.

Another exciting development in partnership with the Lighthouse Mission has been the Belonging Class. Rusty Polinder and our friend Matt from Spring Church lead that class. It is a way for the men who are ready to graduate from the Lighthouse Mission's Ascent program to plan and pray about what life will look like after they graduate, how to plug into church and community in Christ. This has been and continues to be a key way to invite men to the Summit house or other like-minded recovery house models. Pray this continues to be a successful tool for folks to have hope and a future in Christ and with His Body the Church.



We are also happy to hire on Missy Taylor as a Stephen Servant a few hours a week to help us with media and mercy ministry. **Missy was baptized a few years ago at the Jesus Gathering and has grown quickly** since then. Pray that the LORD will give her strength, protection, grace, and the wherewithal to help those in need.

At our most recent Jesus Gathering Peter Rust shared the importance of remembering that people are made in God's image and our worth comes from that, and as Christians, from the fact that Christ gave Himself for us. In a previous Jesus Gathering we explored the question: what is the Church? I'd like to share some of that in our newsletter as part of strengthening the Church for you that read it.

So what is the Church? According to Jesus in Matthew 16 and 18 it is built on the confession that Jesus Christ is the Messiah the Son of the Living God. And that confession came from Peter and later the other Apostles, who then appointed elders. From the context of Jesus' teaching on the Church it appears that there must be leadership and accountability. Not just two or three people getting together, but more than that. It's certainly not enough to just watch a service online. There needs to be real people coming together with leadership and accountability. **If that is Jesus' vision for the Church let's join with it** and not only make it a priority ourselves but invite others into that community. Many blessings, friends.

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)