



Update on Envision

September 2022

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 19 No. 9

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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The Senti's blog is also on our website

www.envisionmission.org/senti

Prayers and Praises

We have hired Claudia Barbosa for our Women's Summit House Coordinator position!

Thank you for praying. She was first hired as our assistant and then demonstrated so much initiative that we decided she was perfect for the job. She also works for our BTC SALT ministry which will become its own non-profit by next year. She has an amazing heart for discipleship especially for women and a lot of experience with networking also. Pray that God will strengthen her for the task!



One of the highlights of our street night experience is when guys from the Summit house join in, which the Bellingham house requires once a month for each guy there. There are now five guys at the Bellingham house, so it is totally at capacity. We're interviewing two more guys for the Lynden house as well.

When Summit house fellows come out on Street Night they

always bring a deeper understand of the folks we meet. As one of our new guys gave a power aid drink to a homeless friend, he drank it in three gulps he was so thirsty. "Isn't that better than a beer?" our Summit house friend asked him. He smiled from ear to ear and came back later to engage with us more.



Some of our crew is pictured above at the beginning of the night, gathering for prayer before we go out in our teams. Also, pictured here on the left are Mitchell and Pastor Jeff of 1st Baptist, trading stories about the long-time partnership between Envision and 1st Baptist.

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!

Whether praying for folks coming through as hitchhikers or just sharing with folks from a distance, the Gospel continues to go out through street night. After we listened to one lady share what she believed about the universe, **we were able to share the Gospel.** When she stopped and asked if we were trying to convert her we responded that we had listened to her share what she believed and we were simply sharing what we believed, so she let us continue. Then another man overheard and joined the conversation and so we had the opportunity to share the Gospel with him as well.

One of the most important ways churches can prepare for evangelism is to practice sharing with each other. In small groups, Sunday school settings or informal gatherings it's important for us to learn to share our testimonies with one another, to remind each other of the Gospel, to even allow ourselves to be vulnerable about what's really going on in our lives and to say to each other, “Can I pray for you about that?”

If we practice this in our own settings it becomes easier to reach out to others. If there is no vulnerability than newcomers won't feel safe to share their struggles either and never get to know us or us them. The first order of business in strengthening the churches is to encourage us to share the Word with each other, not just to listen to it for 40 minutes on a Sunday morning. Consider how you might share with a fellow church member something you're learning from Scripture, or asking if someone needs prayer, or finding a way to share your story or a joy/struggle in a safe setting.

Does anyone have a mother-in-law suite or a basement apartment they are willing to rent out to one of our graduates who has a long history of working hard, paying his rent on time, is very respectful, has been sober for many years now and is attending church regularly? He's looking for something around \$500-950/month.

Christ's ministry of reconciliation goes on in our houses, on the streets, at Bellingham Technical College Salt ministry, and in many other ways, so thank you for supporting us! **Our first Christmas concert will be at Second Christian Reformed Church in Lynden on December 2 at 7pm.** Mark your calendars early if you would like to come and get a CD or just information on how to download. We hope that album will bless our supporters to meditate on Christ's incarnation, even as we seek to incarnate Christ into the lives of those we work with.

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)

Sunday: Jesus Study at the Majestic 5pm

