



Update on Envision

November 2022

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 19 No. 11

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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Upcoming Events, Updates and Prayer Requests

Our 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 get information on how to download the album. We hope that this collection of Christmas carols will help our supporters to meditate on Christ's incarnation, even as we seek to incarnate Christ into the lives of those we work with. And we hope to see you there!

In the picture below the team is finishing a street night by singing and praying. One of our friends without housing joins us with his dog and even gets a tip from a passerby. Folks sing with us sometimes and pray with us too. On one evening we had conversation with a young man and young lady, she was 17 and he not much older. **As we shared the Gospel with them they were very open**, even sharing that they too had faith in Jesus. Pray that they could be connected to the Body of Christ. On some nights we end up sharing with a lot of people, some are hungry for prayer and the Word, others not so much. But whatever the case, we're thankful for those who are willing to go and serve.



Some of the group also attend game nights at the Lighthouse Mission's Ascent Program and the Agape Home. So far that has been **very successful at the Agape home as they play Bingo** with the ladies. We've been able to play chess with a few of the guys at the Ascent program as well. We do hope to build relationships with these guys and gals in the programs so that when they graduate they know and trust us enough to come to Summit houses and to

Board:
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Mitchell Senti, Ben
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Treasurer/Elder: Dan
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Advisory Deacon:
Rustin Polinder

Bookkeeper: Karen
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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

Our vision: to seek the face of Jesus!

our churches as well. That's why we need some of you, especially from those churches who sponsor houses, to come and join us- First, Second, and Third Christian Reformed, as well as Bethel and Hope in Christ Churches.

Be praying for our staff and families. There's been more sickness, car breakdowns, emotional struggles, and sleeplessness as well as spiritual warfare among us. By the time this goes to print, our staff will be on a retreat at Cedar Springs Christian Retreat Center and our theme is “**Strengthening the Church**”. Pray that the retreat will be a blessing to us and ultimately a blessing for the churches we are in partnership with. One of our foremost desires is to help the church to make disciples that will make disciples. We hope to do more training sessions in various churches to that end, so be on the lookout for these as we will be announcing them over the next year.

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. He has a lead for the next six months, but after that he will be in need of a place to rent again. Also if anyone has a vehicle they could give or sell at a discount to one of the ladies applying to a Summit house let us know.

One man, in baptism class, has been growing in his faith. He is praying, considering his speech and growing in the knowledge of God. **Pray that his mother also comes to faith.** Our Belonging Class with the help of Spring Church has been a success, though we had to take a break with so many outbreaks of Covid. Yet it has proved to be a great way to get to know people in the programs and help them to understand how they might belong in the Church as well. There is a men's group on Thursday mornings, a Bible study led by one of our Summit house guys on Wednesday night, another Jesus Study on Sunday nights and a prayer meeting on Friday. All of these are going well, with a little growth in attendance and much growth in terms of discipleship.

One of the things we have learned the most in this ministry is that we in the Church who tend to be middle class need the poor to be among us in order to have authentic community in Christ. That's because we need to learn about the Kingdom from one another. The poor tend to teach us about sharing and vulnerability. We tend to teach them about saving, planning and boundaries. This fellowship of learning causes us all to grow into maturity in Christ Jesus. That's why having discipleship partnerships isn't just about church folks helping those in the Summit houses. It's also that those in the Summit houses are a gift to the Church. Then it becomes less about “us and them”, and more about us together learning from the One Teacher who is Christ Jesus. Some of those who first came to our Summit houses seemed to barely know the LORD at all, so it's also about helping them know Him more. In the next newsletters we'll share about some of the men's stories, so stay tuned. But then we have all learned to know Him more through that process. We trust the same kind of thing will be happening with the ladies who are applying to a Summit house also. **Pray that a women's house can be raised up soon.**

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