

March 2023

The Mission of Envision is to:

- build authentic community by:
- proclaiming the gospel
- and making disciples of Jesus Christ
- in Whatcom County
- especially through Summit discipleship houses
- as a church missionary effort working in conjunction with local churches.

(Goals/Values and Budget Report Available Upon Request)

Envision Mission 710 E. Sunset Bellingham, WA 98225

Office Phone: (360) 392-0289

E-mail: mitchsenti@ hotmail.com

Website: www.envision mission.org

The Senti's blog is also on our website <u>www.envisionmis</u> sion.org/senti

Update on Envision

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 20 No.3

God's Good Work!

We're so blessed to see the women's house at Bethel Church in Lynden doing well. The ladies are applying for jobs and volunteer work, one of them has been able to have visitations with her children there, and so many folks from local churches are coming by and blessing them



with time spent, dinners, crafts, and love-- it's just amazing! God is blessing this project so much and now another lady is applying to the house. Pray for wisdom and blessing on that decision for us also. We would love to help our first applicants to get a vehicle as most of their appointments will be in Bellingham. Let us know if you

hear of anything, even if at a discount price. Also we could use a grass clippers and a shovel for the women's house. Thank you to those who gave towards sponsoring a month for one of the residents! Would another of you consider giving a sponsor gift of \$250 for a free month for one of the women or men again? Some of them are having a tough time making enough money at work to pay all their bills, especially the new folks. We're still looking for an affordable place for one of our friends to move into towards the beginning of next year. Let us know if you hear of anything for him also.

Street night, Jesus Study, Men's group, Prayer gathering, and classes have continued into this year focused on bringing the Gospel and discipleship in Jesus. Josiah, who is now a volunteer with us, has been leading a class on Hermeneutics (how to read and properly interpret the Bible) which some of our Summit folks have attended at 2nd Church in Lynden. Dave Richards, another volunteer, has been leading our Safe People class at Hope in Christ Summit house. Cal Buys continues to lead Street night with many others coming, sometimes for game night also at the Agape and Ascent program. We're so blessed to have these volunteers leading these various ministries of Envision! Pray that the Gospel will continue to spread through us and that we can continue to fulfill our mission to make disciples of Jesus.

We are in conversation with another church in Whatcom County about having a men's house in Bellingham. Please pray for wisdom on that decision, hopefully this year.

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!

We would like to tell the story of one of our graduates: Andrew Sopajay Campbell. We plan to share the stories of some of our dear friends each month this year so you can get a picture of who they are. I hesitate to do this, because it is God's story and their story and we don't want



to use them in any way to promote ourselves or to endanger them spiritually, so please pray for him even as we share this for the glory of God. Sopajay is our friend's Native American name. When he was three years old his father threw him across the room in a drunken rage. Sopajay's head hit against a bookshelf and to this day there is a large dent in the back of his head. This damaged him so badly that he was comatose in the hospital and couldn't speak or function well at all. A woman adopted him into her family and raised him from that

time. He began to speak, but had major learning disabilities and immense social anxiety. Other kids made fun of him in school and this was detrimental to his self-image. At some point in his life he came to know Christ and that became his only comfort. As an adult he got some work through a disabilities program and found housing and made a few friends. We met him at Three Trees Coffeehouse, and at first here refused to even respond to our greetings, only receiving a cup of coffee from us and sitting silently at a table. Finally one day he opened up and asked questions about why God had allowed him to go through so much. We answered as best we could, but mainly just loved him and eventually gained his trust. When we first opened the Summit house in Bellingham he inquired about whether he should be a part of it. A friend of his who was not a believer opposed this and offered for Andrew to go with him to Arizona and only have to pay a couple hundred dollars for rent, beautiful sunshine, and nature walks. The Summit house program fees are \$500, and that initially deterred him, but he concluded that God was calling him to the Summit House, much to his friend's dismay. The program at the house was one of the most difficult things he had ever done. Each class was not only difficult academically for him, due to disabilities, but even more difficult was the process of facing his spiritual heart issues deeply with God. Sometimes he didn't want to do the work, especially when it came to understanding and wrestling with the reasons he was socially isolating himself. After many tears, conflicts and agonizing prayers Sopajay completed his first year. When his friend Shane saw what he was studying and how God was slowly changing him he also wanted to know Christ. Shane came to faith and was baptized. Then Sopajay and Shane moved in with Shane's mother in Arizona and now belong to a church there and is being enfolded by them. It has not been easy, but slowly Sopajay has gained new friendships and gotten involved in that church. He is so excited at each victory he finds as he overcomes his isolation and fears. We are so thankful to see the transformation in both their lives. Please pray they continue to grow more and more until the Day of Christ! This is what our Summit houses are all about- growing in Jesus, connected to the Body and glorifying God.

Our Weekly Schedule:

<u>Tuesday:</u> Street Night Tuesdays (5:30-7:15pm), starts at 1st Baptist on 110 Flora St. <u>Thursday:</u> Men's group at Woods Barkley at 7am. <u>Friday:</u> Prayer at the Light of the World Prayer Center (3-5pm) <u>Sunday:</u> Jesus Study at the Majestic all other Sundays (5pm)