



Update on Envision

May 2023

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 20 No.5

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)

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Stories to God's glory



The third graduate of the Summit house from the first year was Mark Anderson. He has been a joy to get to know over the years and came to us when he was in a tough place, not wanting to be homeless. Mark is a Yupik Native American who has lived in Whatcom County for many years now. After applying we took him in and he always struggled with his motives about being there. But he did the work and would say to this day that God gave him some helpful tools while he was at the Summit house. It wasn't easy, but it was God's will. And that is his prayer today. **He would have us all pray that he can stay in the will of God always.**

He got a new job after graduating with a

catering service and has been doing that ever since. He is a regular greeter at his church New Song and sometimes makes coffee there as well. It isn't as if it was all roses after he graduated. In fact, a few months after graduating he had a relapse that put him in a pretty bad position. But that was a wake-up call at the time and his small group from his church stepped in and helped him move out, stay connected to the Body, and he is still connected today. It hasn't been perfect, but the journey of discipleship is never ending and he is walking with Christ strong, working hard, serving God's people and moving forward. Thank you for your prayers for him and all of our guests at the Summit houses. Next month we'll highlight the next graduate from our 2nd program year.

We will also highlight our new Ministry Coach, Aaron Speyer in the next newsletter. For this one, we'd like to explain our new funding source for the future. We plan to open a thrift store in downtown Lynden that will sell mostly clothing and small household accessories. We are very fond of our friends at Lynden Christian and their Second Chance store, but we believe with them that God is big enough for another one to be in town and help support Envision Mission and the Summit houses. We'll let you know when we can take donations for that, but for now please pray for the details to come together. This is also how we plan to sustain our staff for the long haul. More details will come later.

Praise God with us for this new open door!

We're so excited for one of our lady residents to be driving now. **Pray that she can get a job soon as she's had some very positive interviews.** Also pray for all our guests at the Summit houses for work, housing in the future, and strong connection to their churches for discipleship. One of our graduates is still looking for housing. If you want to help with moving costs let us know. Also if anyone has an extra shovel or shears for the ladies' house let us know as well.

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!



Street nights are still going strong with leadership from Cal Buys and the “bucket boys”. This past Tuesday we had two folks that had been connected to a church in the past after praying with the truths of the Gospel we could also encourage them to reconnect with their churches. Many times God opened the door for us to put in a good word for Jesus. As we came together to sing a gal that we'd prayed with many times approached us and shared that she had found housing, so we prayed with her that she could stay off drugs too. We always have a good time singing and many times people join us as well. **Pray that we can continue sharing the Gospel and building trust**

with our friends out there without housing.

We also hope to start having our friend Mark Tarbell leading the Jesus Study on Sunday



nights. He has helped to lead our Safe People class as well. What a blessing it has been to look at the Gospels together for discipleship. We also plan to do a discipleship class with all the Summit house folks. We have a full house of five guys at the Hope in Christ house, four guys at the Second Church house and two ladies at the

Bethel house with more folks applying. Praise the LORD for raising up disciples and **pray that He continues to raise up discipleship partners for them all!** Pictured left: a typical Jesus study group on Sunday nights.

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)