

June 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)

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

# Update on Envision

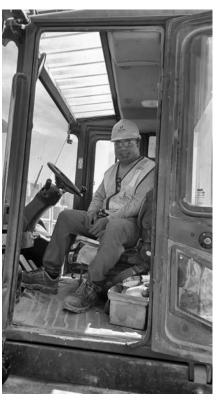
#### Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 20 No. 6

# More Stories to God's glory

We are searching for another **assistant to the Program Coordinator** at the Ladies house at Bethel church. **It would be a 10-20 hour job**. Please let us know if interested.

**Daikson Daidad** is from Micronesia, where Guam and the Marshal Islands are located. He used to be a drunkard who was on the street and totally strung out at times. Then he came to



the Lighthouse Mission. They were gracious to him and helped him see his deeper issues of life, pointing him back to his childhood faith in Christ as well. Soon he joined the New Life program under Aaron Speyer's leadership and eventually graduated. Aaron recommended him to us some years ago and he applied to the Summit house. We took him in and he did the 12 steps with us and persevered through the whole Covid experience while in our house, which prolonged his program year into two years. He has struggled to stay connected to the Church, but we keep encouraging him in that way. After two and a half years with us he moved out to a situation that he found through his Christian men's group that would save him money every month so he could afford an apartment. Now he is looking at moving into a studio as of June 15. Pray that this works out and that he can stay connected to the Body of Christ as he moves forward into what God has for him. He meets with his discipleship partner weekly to this day and we are so proud of him as he navigates his job, sobriety and all the pressures of life as a disciple of Jesus. He is pictured left at his workplace, the fourth graduate of the Summit house.

We have a discipleship partner training on June 23 Friday evening at 6pm at 2<sup>nd</sup> Church in Lynden. If at all interested please come and learn about it. One of our lady residents got a job, but due to an employer error and misunderstanding, they had to let her go soon after. Please pray that she will get another job and be encouraged that God has something even better for her in the future, even as she has already applied to 20 jobs since. A new lady has also entered the Bethel house and we are so excited to get to know her as well. The Summit house that we're planning to open with Northwest Baptist church is still in the plan, but now we're looking at next year to start it. We trust the LORD's timing of course.

Our recent Street nights always include game nights with either the men at the Ascent program or the women at the Agape program. We've had some great nights with up to 30 people joining us at a time. One of the crews goes down to the lettered streets where homeless folks live in vans and RV's. **They consistently look for ways to share Christ with folks there**, especially one man who is a talented artist. Please pray that his heart will open to the Gospel as with many others we hope for there.

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!

It's always about building trust with the folks out there on the streets in the hope that they may be open to Base Camp and desire something more than just surviving on the street. Then we always hope they might express interest from there in the Ascent or Agape programs and eventually make their way to a Summit house. **Please pray also that we can find ways of creating affordable housing for our graduates**, possibly with local Christian land developers in our ideas.

I first met Aaron Speyer at Hope in Christ over twenty years ago when he ministered to hurting and struggling kids through a youth group. About four years later he started working for the Lighthouse Mission and eventually led the New Life Program there. He has been a friend for



20 years and joins our team with as much experience with those on the margins as anyone on our staff. He has a gift for discerning the human heart and helping folks see the root of their struggles in order to bring those to Jesus for healing. He is outstanding at doing this with our guests at the Summit houses and we are grateful beyond words for his service with us, not only helping our guests but also helping our staff to navigate this difficult

but rewarding work. This heart work is so valuable because it helps our guests to stay in the light even long after they have graduated from our programs and connect to the Body of Christ. Praise God with us for him joining us. And pray for him, his family, including his dear wife Megan pictured above, that they would be strengthened in Christ and protected from the evil one. He attends Redeemer Church in Bellingham and is connected to a small group there as well. His sense of humor, faith and long time connection to one of the sponsoring churches, Hope in Christ, has already proved invaluable.

Would anyone **be willing to donate a weed-whacker and a hedge trimmer** to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Church Summit house? Let us know.

# **Our Weekly Schedule:**

<u>**Tuesday:</u>** Street Night Tuesdays (5:30-7:15pm), starts at 1<sup>st</sup> 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 (5pm)</u>