



Update on Envision

October 2024

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 21 No. 10

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:
info@envisionmission.org

Website:
www.envisionmission.org

The Senti's blog is also on our website

www.envisionmission.org/senti

Praises and Prayers

By the time this goes to print, we trust that the **Summit Houses Celebration on Thursday October 3 at 6:30pm at Sonlight Church went well** and that all were blessed who came. We will publish pictures and updates on that in the next newsletter.

We're also **thankful for our summer intern Rebecca Ball**, pictured below with Cal Buys on street night. She assisted us in many ways and experienced the life of Envision by helping in the office, joining us with meetings at the Summit houses and with our staff as well as researching ideas for grant writing. What a blessing she was to our ministry and we hope her time at college will be super blessed. And street night continues to be a blessing to those who volunteer and those we minister to.



The Gospel continues to be shared with others. One of our regular volunteers had a Gospel conversation in which a man shared that as long as he lived a 'good life' he would be ok. But our volunteer reminded him, it's not about living a 'good life' but faith in Jesus Christ that saves us. On another occasion two of us shared with a former JW that God was calling him to repent and come to faith in the true Jesus. He got tears in his eyes and thanked God that we were there for him. Volunteers pray for folks at Base Camp, hand out socks, Bibles and other helpful items as we get to know folks out there. New people are doing orientations on the third Tuesday of each month and regularly joining the group as well. One volunteer was able to pass on a bike to a woman who gratefully received it with prayer.

Those in the houses who used to be on the streets and have come through the programs at the Lighthouse Mission to us are growing in their faith in Jesus. **They are overcoming temptations in real ways** instead of going back to old habits and addictions. We are so proud of them. Others have experienced reconciliations that only God can bring about. One of our dear friends in the Ladies' house at Bethel returned to her home state of Wyoming to visit family and experienced amazing reconciliations with kids, parents and others who saw how much God has changed her. For another we are praying for custody of her child. For some it is important to keep healthy boundaries with family members as well. Pray for us all for wisdom and rejoice with us that our friends are experiencing the reconciling work of Christ.

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 are so proud of our friend Ryan Wright, who will be sharing at the October celebration, Lord willing. **He is now leading the Jesus Study on Sunday nights and doing an excellent job.** There are about eight of us who regularly attend that study, all from different walks of life. Some used to come to the Jesus Gathering church services when we held those in the past. But Ryan has agreed to facilitate the study, even though he works full time and is committed to being an AA sponsor and being a part of other Christian discipleship meetings during the week. He has come through so much and we will share his story more, as well as others' stories, in upcoming newsletters.

We're also excited that the **Northwest Baptist house has received many donations of furniture and other needed items.** We're still getting it ready for other guys to move in, but it is coming along beautifully. Most of those items have come from folks that attend Northwest Baptist church and for that we are super thankful.

We also enjoy being part of the Belonging Class at the Lighthouse Mission, which includes folks from both the Ascent program and Agape program. We are helping them look to the future and find their new friends at church. **We really pray for and desire their churches become their new support system as they move forward in their lives.** That is our sole purpose as a ministry. But we can't do that without the church, so pray about whether you could be a discipleship partner for one of our people and pray that more folks graduating from the Lighthouse Mission and similar programs will apply for and join the Summit houses. We still have six beds available - four for men and two for women.

Two of our Summit house guys helped a friend from the streets get into detox. Pray that this friend will go into treatment and get the help needed from there. It's important for our guests to be a part of contributing to the needs of others and not just being on the receiving end. The call of the church is to treat folks who have struggled with dignity and call them up to their identity as children of God. We do not treat people as charity cases or give them whatever they think they want when it's not best for them or loving them as ourselves. Boundaries are important if we want to treat folks with dignity as we would want to be treated. We don't let folks take advantage of us unless we choose to in order to show them grace, but even then such help can become enabling, so it's important to have accountability. **Pray for us for wisdom as we navigate decisions with how to show true grace to one another.**

The thrift store is thriving and we are doing well financially as a ministry thanks to so many of you giving and helping! And if anyone wants to help us pay the monthly rent, \$1600/month, please let us know as well. We understand that is a big commitment. **Pray also about whether you could give \$250 or \$500 to help someone with one month's program fees.** All the houses have a person that could use the help. We so appreciate your generosity as we still have more expenses with 4 houses and 7 staff.

Our Weekly Schedule:

Tuesday: Street Night Tuesdays (5:30-7:15pm), starts at 1st Baptist on 110 Flora St.

Thursday: Discipleship class at Bethel house at 4:30pm.

Friday: Prayer at the Light of the World Prayer Center (3-5pm)

Sunday: Jesus Study at the Majestic (5pm)