

2017 FPCC Mission Study, 1 – 3 Year Goals (Updated November 12, 2018)

Goals 1 – 3 Years

- Call the Pastor that God has already planned for our congregation. One that will lead our transition to the hub of community activity, which we believe God is calling us to be.

UPDATE: The Session and Lay Pastors are boldly carrying our new vision forward. Many community groups have been added to the calendar with events as varied as feeding programs, free legal advice, non-partisan informational forums on ballot initiatives, etc. Along with the six other churches we provide worship space for, we are growing into an integral hub of downtown. We pray the new called pastor would come alongside, encourage, and help provide another ear for God's calling for our corner of the Kingdom.

- Champion one new worshipping community each of the next three years. Transform, reorient, and restructure existing assets as needed to fully support the denomination's program to start 1001 new worshipping communities in 10 years

UPDATE: The first grant proposal to help fund Casa Del Dios Roca de Jacob (CDRJ) was denied by the Presbyterian Mission Agency and has been resubmitted. Our Session worked with and recommended two members of CDRJ for participation in our Presbytery's Commissioned Lay Pastor program. Our second 1001 New Worshipping Community is in the planning stage.

- Transform our worship experience by installing interpretation system, to ease integration of the worship service for Spanish Speakers. Trust that God will make a need for the system, because "God is able".

UPDATE: We have removed this as a goal since we have three Spanish speaking ministries on campus with which we love partnering in ministry. When a need arises for visitors that speak Spanish, we direct them to our sister churches on campus. Kingdom building in partnership with other churches on campus is one of the joys of operating in Christ's "Big C" Church. We are more than FPCC, we are the rock on a corner of God's kingdom.

- Obtain funding from Presbytery to lay the ground work needed to acquire up to twenty tri-plex units on the former Naval Weapons Station. Work with other Valley churches to staff and maintain transitional and low-income housing for families and veterans. Begin sponsoring and leading the program in years 3-5.

UPDATE: The City of Concord purchased the land that we had our eye on and will be demolishing existing housing for "base clean-up". As a result, we have reshaped this goal to bring Tiny Homes to Concord. Individuals from 17 different churches signed up to be on a mailing list and potentially come alongside FPCC to work with the City to find land and utility hook-ups for a Tiny Home village. This is planned as transitional housing to allow individuals and families the opportunity to save money for First, Last and security deposits to move into traditional housing. However, several units will be set aside using the "housing first" format that has been successful in other cities to assist homeless individuals to reenter mainstream if that is their desire.

- Strengthen our deacon corps mission by creating and coordinating a homebound and senior facility team. This team would minister to our aging congregation at home and in the city's many senior care facilities.

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UPDATE: We have retained a pastoral care professional to assist FPCC with conducting pastoral visits while we are between pastors and to train our Deacons, Elders, plus other interested congregants in pastoral care. The aim is to prepare the Deacons to better care for the church. This work will include actively leading pastoral visits and demonstrating care for others, to provide training by example.

- Continue our ties and offer leadership to Church Without Shoes (CWS), a coalition of East Bay Pastors. By leveraging the co-op we can do things for the Kingdom that smaller individual churches could not do on their own.

UPDATE: Both Commissioned Lay Pastors have attended informational and prayer meetings and Ann will be attending the CWS retreat in October. The work done in and through this group helped to produce one of the most worshipful Praise in the Park events to date on Sept 15th, 2018. In the first 5 hours of the event the prayer teams reported that 15 people dedicated their lives to Christ.

- Grow Holistic Small Group opportunities for Spanish speakers, our neighbors in the Heritage Towers, Caregivers, Widows, and Widowers to meet these growing community needs.

UPDATE: Bible studies are now established at the Heritage Towers. Future leaders are being identified to fill ordained elder and teaching roles. It is expected that other Small Groups' focus groups will grow out of deacon training.

- Establish two new worship services to fill community needs:
 1. Saturday evening contemporary

UPDATE: This is in the works as potentially the 2nd year 1001 worshipping communities. The desire is to reach the outcasts, the homeless, the people that feel the church is repressive, anti-science, stuffy, and who may not feel comfortable in our regular worship service. Outcast Ministries would meet for dinner, conversations, and worship.

2. Senior adults who have Alzheimer's, dementia or other forms of memory loss

UPDATE: Still a future goal that may grow out of the deacon training.

- Increase congregational participation in service opportunities by 5%; i.e. sponsoring a child or a missionary, participating in Service Worship opportunities, community engagement, praying for missionaries, joining a church ministry team, etc.

UPDATE: Service opportunities such as yard cleanup within small groups, new members in the Merry Macs, incorporating new voices in the Lay Leader position, cleaning a local school, volunteers for Praise in the Park from our congregation is at an all time high. Each of these is an indication of deeper involvement in the life of the community. Bench marking the starting point has proved to be difficult but as the examples show, participation is trending in the correct direction.