



Johnson Street

CHURCH of CHRIST

Vision statement:

Johnson Street Church of Christ **partners** with God to **embrace** each other as followers of Jesus and **engage** our community with His **transforming** love.

Objectives

Create a more welcoming environment to allow us to embrace each other as followers of Jesus and engage new members and guests. *(An environment that brings glory to God is created when we accept one another as God has accepted us. Romans 15 with a special emphasis on verses 5-7)*

- A. Develop a Welcome Team (including greeters) with the goal of identifying and designing a welcoming environment/experience for our guests
- B. Renovate the foyer area to include a Connection Center with a welcome area for guests that will provide information on our services, class offerings, and ministries (See Objective 5)
- C. Develop a Connection Center that includes information on ministries, current needs, service opportunities, and small groups within the church
- D. Create a team to actively staff Connection Center during worship and a system of members that are willing to host guests when they come to Johnson Street
- E. Renovate common areas (foyer, parlor, chapel) to include more comfortable and inviting areas to sit and talk with guests (i.e. couches, chairs, coffee shop, etc) (See Objective 5)
- F. Develop a database/organization of ministries to be available at the Connection center. This would include electronic and paper resources
- G. Interior/Exterior Signage (Throughout the building and Parking Lot)

Organize ministries within our church in a strategic manner to empower staff members and leadership teams to actively serve our church and community. *(God has equipped his servants with the capacity to build up the body of Christ so that the body of Christ can realize unity and maturity in the faith. Ephesians 4)*

- A. Evaluate the effectiveness/viability of our current ministries and ministry teams and those who are serving and involved in each ministry
- B. Realign current ministries in existence so that each ministry is under the responsibility of a staff member
- C. Develop a ministry database in which all ministries and leadership team are easily identified and accessible
- D. Each staff member will identify, develop, and train a leadership team that will serve in their ministry areas
- E. Train leadership teams by providing education and resources for each ministry to empower leaders
- F. Host a ministry event for the congregation to encourage service for each ministry
- G. Provide ongoing communication via Connection Center and other media outlets to continually inform new members of ministry and service opportunities

Restructure facilities to allow more opportunities to embrace our members and engage with our community and guests within our church. *(Though we are free to do what we wish with what we have, we have made ourselves a slave to everyone so that we might save some. We relinquish our rights and preferences to sacred cows for the sake of the gospel. 1 Cor 9:19-23)*

- A. Identify and empower a design team who will collaborate with ministry leaders to propose the following renovations:
- B. Renovate the foyer area to include a Connection Center with a welcome area for guests that will provide information on our services, class offerings, and ministries
- C. Renovate common areas (foyer, parlor, chapel) to include more comfortable and inviting areas to sit and talk with guests (i.e. couches, chairs, coffee shop, etc)
- D. Update Adult Bible classroom furniture and formation to provide more opportunities for discussion during Bible class (lecture/discussion format; consider large tables with chairs around)
- E. Renovate upstairs children's classroom and facilities to make more functional and welcoming
- F. Add additional bathroom facilities to allow for large gatherings and events

Implement practical ways for both our members and guests to embrace and engage within our church and the community. *(The body of Christ is committed to echoing Jesus' mission to seek and save the lost in practical ways. John 15:16–17, John 13:34–35)*

- A. Create a team to coordinate and execute opportunities to use our tangible resources as ministry or outreach (i.e. marriage conferences, youth conferences/rallies, concerts, guest speakers to address community concerns, etc.)
- B. Highlight ministries each month with a call to action moment during Sunday worship
- C. Prioritize effective ways to consistently disseminate information about service and ministry opportunities
- D. Intentionally design the Connection Center with various methods of communication and interaction (written, QR codes, screens, ipads)
- E. Define the what and why of church membership (including expectations, participation, and what it looks like to embrace each other as followers of Christ)
- F. Identify and prioritize effective ways to disseminate membership roles to all members (sermons, Bible classes, small group, etc.)
- G. Offer additional opportunities for weekly gatherings (outside of Sunday/Wednesday) to accommodate different needs within our congregation (moms, women, men, teens, singles, seniors, etc.)
- H. Provide adequate time/structure between Bible class and worship to allow members to embrace each other and engage guests (see 2E)
- I. Goal: Guests -> members -> active participation in ministry

Actively develop and support areas of discipleship and fellowship for specified populations in our membership such as college age students, women, men, married, unmarried, seniors, children, and youth. *(Personal relationships are the key to making disciples. Paul's personal relationship with Timothy was the catalyst to spiritual and community growth. 2 Timothy 2:1,2, Romans 10:14–17)*

- A. Identify staff/leadership teams for each sub-populations listed above
- B. Within each team, designate a leader for fellowship and discipleship
- C. Empower the leadership team with the resources and education to disciple and provide fellowship within their group
- D. Have designated fellowship amongst different populations with coordination from leadership teams

Intentionally seek and develop partnerships and opportunities within the community in which our church can serve. *(We were called into community to make disciples. Just as Paul leaned into his partnership with the churches in Philippi, Thessalonica, and Colosse, (to name a few) we have potential partners in the gospel that can help us fulfill the great commission. Philippians 1:3-6, Luke 19:10)*

- A. Empower a community engagement team
- B. Explore ways to develop a deeper relationship with Rams for Christ and ASU
- C. Explore ways to develop a deeper relationship with Goodfellow Air Force Base
- D. Explore ways to strengthen relationships through Sunshine School as a point of engagement
- E. Develop a relationship with Glenn Middle School, other neighboring schools, and the SAISD Administrative Team
- F. Create a team to develop opportunities for JSCC to partner with other churches
- G. Create a team to develop opportunities to host community events that would allow us to use our building(s)

Align and utilize small groups and adult Bible classes to allow members opportunities to partner with God and embrace each other as followers of Jesus while also being a nurturing environment for guests. *(We are called to encourage one another and to spur one another on to good deeds. Smaller, more intimate groups foster both service and relationship both inside and outside the community of faith. Hebrew 10:24-25)*

- A. Create a leadership team to help identify the purpose of small groups and Bible classes and create an organizational system that allows members and guests to join and leave a small group/Bible class (on and off ramp)
- B. Champion small groups and Bible classes everywhere
- C. Restructure adult Bible classes with intergenerational offerings, new names, team of teachers with a diverse background (age, gender, previous class attendance)
- D. Create diverse small groups that include intergenerational, similar life circumstances, married/unmarried, children/non-children, etc.
- E. Identify individuals and families that are willing to lead small groups and Bible classes
- F. Develop training and support for small group leaders and Bible class teachers
- G. Develop curriculum opportunities, resources for small group and Bible classes who need it. Consider doing church-wide, sermon-based studies throughout the year
- H. Create a form (online/paper) to help identify preferences for small groups
- I. Host a small group and Bible class reboot / event to kick off a new small groups / Bible class season. Allow opportunities for new small groups / Bible class to be formed and established groups to grow
- J. Utilize ongoing communication methods using the Connection Center to help new guests and members to join a small group and Bible classes
- K. Routinely evaluate the small group and Bible class process and participation

Structure our corporate worship environment to promote more active participation of the entire congregation and community. *(The Holy Spirit has given all of his followers spiritual gifts to be used for the common good. These followers and their gifts make up the body of Christ and are worthy of honor. 1 Cor 12, Ephesians 4:11-16)*

- A. Evaluate our current worship practices and identify areas in which we need to be more inclusive in order to engage members and guests
- B. Intentionally include a diverse (minorities, women, all ages, shut-ins) presence within the corporate worship experience (i.e. families serving communion, etc.)
- C. Provide opportunities for active participation for all throughout the corporate worship time (i.e. personal testimony, etc.)
- D. Explore communion. Make sure everyone knows communion is an open table. Explore beliefs of congregation/purpose of what we do and why we do it
- E. Provide an environment and time before worship to allow for engagement with guests and members
- F. Develop a team to engage people who are watching our services online in order to develop a sense of belonging with the online community (i.e. provide them with opportunities to ask questions, offer prayer requests, and honoring their requests)