



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SPIRITUAL PLAN 2012

CELEBRATING 179 YEARS
1833—2012

OUR PURPOSES ARE THESE:

(5 Biblical Mandates)

1. Worship - Celebrating God's Blessing and grace as a community.

Based upon Matthew 22:37-40... *“Love the Lord your God with all of your heart and with all of your soul and with all of your mind.”*

- 1.1 Create a variety of spiritually stimulating, biblically focused worship services, where the Word of God is proclaimed and God's love and grace are lived and expressed freely by all members. (WORSHIP TEAM)
- 1.2 Provide inspirational, worship music that transforms the human spirit toward a closer relationship with our Lord. (WORSHIP TEAM)
- 1.3 Create an environment where all can feel warmth, love, enthusiasm, hospitality and friendliness and God's love is freely experienced. (CHURCH GROWTH TEAM)

2. Discipleship - Enabling our members to become more like

Christ in their actions, thoughts and feelings. Based upon Matthew 28:19-20...*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

- 2.1 Encourage and assist all disciples to grow and develop spiritually by providing biblically-based, educational classes for all age groups. (SPIRITUAL GROWTH TEAM)
- 2.2 Incorporate prayer into every aspect of our corporate and personal ministry. Specifically, all teams, worship, Upward, individual, et. al.
- 2.3 Affirm and live the biblical mandate of stewardship, thankful for God's abundant gifts used for God's glory and for God's mission. (RESOURCE TEAM)
- 2.4 Provide the ministry highly qualified, professional and spiritual staff members, who can articulate God's vision and lead others to achieve it. (ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD)

3. Fellowship – Becoming a part of the church family. Based upon Acts 10:48...*“So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.”* Also, Ephesians 2:19...*“You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone.”*

- 3.1 Provide monthly, church-wide fellowship opportunities. (FELLOWSHIP TEAM)
- 3.2 Create “entry point” fellowship opportunities for the community. (FELLOWSHIP & CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER TEAM)
- 3.3 Create small groups for study and/or fellowship. (FELLOWSHIP TEAM)
- 3.4 Create fellowship groups for all age groups. (YOUTH MINISTRIES AND FELLOWSHIP TEAMS)
- 3.5 Utilize church spaces to communicate our mission and the spiritual truths we follow. (CHURCH GROWTH TEAM)

4. Evangelism – Sharing the Good News of Christ with the world, transforming “seekers to disciples”. Based upon Matthew 28:19...*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

- 4.1 Utilize and transform our facility to communicate to visitors and members our core beliefs and improve our welcoming nature. (CHURCH GROWTH & WORSHIP TEAMS)
- 4.2 Leverage existing programs to share the gospel and offer needy and hurting people prayer support. (CHURCH GROWTH TEAM)
- 4.3 Get Acquainted seminars to introduce friends to the traditions, missions and ministry of the church.

- 5. Ministry — Demonstrate God’s love to others by meeting the spiritual, emotional, relational and physical needs of people within our community.** Based upon Mark 12:31...*“Love your neighbor as yourself”* and on Ephesians 4:12...*“Equip the saints for the work of the ministry.”*
- 5.1 Support social action projects, and be responsive to the changing needs of our community. (OUTREACH TEAM)
 - 5.2 Develop and seek opportunities that allow our Christian Life Center to be utilized and exposes neighbors to the love of Christ. (CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER TEAM COLLABORATING WITH GROWTH TEAM)
 - 5.3 Maintain church facilities and grounds. (BUILDING & GROUNDS TEAM)
 - 5.4 Develop a 2-5 year plan that identifies our facilities needs. (BUILDING & GROUNDS TEAM)
 - 5.5 Minister to congregational members in times of need. (CARE & NURTURE TEAM)
 - 5.6 Support pastor thru the Pastor Relations Committee
 - 5.7 Support the staff needs. (PERSONNEL COMMITTEE)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH TIMELINE

2011: Accomplishments

-Called New Pastor
-Approved Constitution and By Laws
-Brother Square
-Begin Plan for New Signage

2012:

- Spring, 2012.....Install Signage
-Continue Improving our Financial Reporting
-Roll Out Safe Church Policy
-New Employee Handbook
-New Church Pictorial Directory
-Install New Software-Member/Bookkeeping Database
-Rekey the Church Facility