

Goals for College Mennonite Church, 2012
November 23, 2008

VISION

By God's grace, CMC will be a congregation in 2012

- **where our experience of God, with a faith rooted in Jesus, the Christ, is central, dynamic, articulated and celebrated.**
- **where relationships within the congregation demonstrate accountability and appreciation for diversity, and focus attention on discerning passion, spiritual gifts and callings.**
- **where we are discovering and joining with what God is doing in our community and world because we are intentionally sitting at the table of the other.**

OBJECTIVES SUPPORTING THE VISION

By God's grace, CMC will be a congregation in 2012

- A. where our experience of God, with a faith rooted in Jesus, the Christ, is central, dynamic, articulated and celebrated.**
1. By January, 2012, 200 people will have engaged in at least four hours of *experiential* learning in the area of Christian spirituality, spiritual disciplines, etc. [Central]
 2. An example of a CMC participant "intentionally tending his/her spiritual life" will be shared weekly (e.g., newsletter, web, or a worship service). [Articulated and celebrated]
 3. A task force will explore implications of this goal area for a) current gathered worship, and b) a possible direction and timetable for a second weekly worship service and/or additional worship experiences (e.g. daily prayers). A first report will be brought to the Board by April 1, 2009. [Dynamic]
 4. We will see a 15% increase in total gathered worship participation by January, 2012. (Attendance will be measured as the average for the same quarter of the year, each of the next three years, compared to the corresponding quarter in 2008.)
- B. where relationships within the congregation demonstrate accountability and appreciation for diversity, and focus attention on discerning passion, spiritual gifts and callings.**
1. 200 people will have participated in at least one "new" time-limited small group. (Note: The organizational structure evaluation process [below] will result in some proposed changes to allow small group participation to flourish.)
 2. 200 people will have identified a passion and spiritual gift and will be using it.
 3. Up to one quarter (equivalent) each year will be devoted to *multigenerational* Christian education classes.

C. where we are discovering and joining with what God is doing in our community and world because we are intentionally sitting at the table of the other.

1. At least 75 people will have entered into a new relationship with someone *beyond* CMC who is *significantly different* in at least one of the following ways: educational level, religion, culture, peace position, race, age, sexual orientation, socio-economic status. (Examples: neighbors, service providers, co-workers, clients, students, co-volunteers, etc.) Personal examples will be shared monthly, similar to sharing in the first goal area above (Objective 2).
2. 200 people will have engaged in at least four hours of *experiential learning* in communicating faith.
3. A “one gospel” task force will be appointed to develop a year- long strategy to eliminate the false dichotomy between “evangelism” and “peace and justice.” (The task force will bring its first recommendations to the Board by April 1 and a first report to the Congregation by May 1, 2009.)
4. The Board will ask the new Minister of Young Adults and a designated elder to explore ways to strengthen the historic relationship of CMC with Goshen College. The goal is to increase dialogue with GC faculty, staff and students and identify ways to increase CMC engagement with the campus community.

IMPLEMENTATION NOTES:

1. Approving this vision includes authorization of an Organizational Structure Evaluation led by a Church Board appointed task force.

The primary question: What needs to change (if anything) in our current congregational structure to effectively implement the above vision? In its work, the Task Force will first review issues related to the ministry description of the long term lead pastor so we can begin the search for a lead pastor promptly. Other organizational issues will then be addressed as well. (The task force will be asked for a first report to the Board by Feb 21, 2009.)

2. Approving this vision also includes authorization for the Church Board to appoint a “Faithful Worship” task force and a “One Gospel” task force.
3. If no date is specified for an objective, the objective is to be accomplished by January, 2012