



Members of Christ Community Church,

May 3, 2009

For the next 6 weeks, you have a unique opportunity to help shape the future VISION of Christ Community Church. It's unique because the initial input will come from you. Your Editorial Team will use your input to draft a series of *Vision Statements*. You will then be able to provide feedback to help the Editorial Team finalize those *Vision Statements*.

Vision

VISION defines our desired future through inspiring and energizing our creative thinking toward answering the question: What do we believe God wants our church to look like when “we become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the Fullness of Christ?” (Ephesians 4:13b)

Your elders believe it would be a mistake to have one individual, or a small group of church leaders, or even a representative committee trying to answer the “What do we believe God wants our church to look like?” question. It's too easy to get caught up on one's own personal agenda. God speaks to us individually and collectively as the Body of Christ, and to know God's vision for us, we need to listen to each other.

“The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ” – I Corinthians 12:12.

“From him (Christ), the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” – Ephesians 4:16

The guidelines that follow will hopefully provide you with the clarity and direction you need. If you have any questions or would like any help with crafting your input, please feel free to contact...

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Guidelines

Providing initial input is more challenging than giving feedback on something that has already been created. We trust you will find the following guidelines helpful in meeting that challenge...

1. The **number** of Vision Statements you submit isn't important. It can be one or several that come from reflecting on our Core Values and Mission, thinking about what our church is currently doing, and considering what else you believe we should be doing.



2. Each Vision Statement you submit needs to have **two parts**:

- **Category** – such as *Prayer*. A potential list of categories is given below.
- **Statement** -- that begins with “We envision a time when...” Examples from other churches are given below.

One example:

Prayer. We envision a time when every ministry, every worship service, every event, and every challenge facing anyone in our church is being supported by members gathered in prayer.

3. Remember that *vision* is a **picture of a desired future** – describing *a time when* something you believe God is leading us toward is taking place. The above example describes a time when all that prayer support is actually occurring.

A Vision Statement is not a *goal* to achieve. It is not a *ministry* or *program* to initiate. Nor is it an *activity* or *event* to plan. Once we have a set of *Vision Statements*, we can set goals and initiate the ministries, programs, activities, and events that we believe will move us closer to that desired future. We do so realizing that we will always be in the process of becoming what God wants us to be. Our *Vision Statements* keep pulling us in that direction.

Possible Categories: These categories are taken from several sources and are not in any specific order. If other categories come to mind, feel free to use them.

- Worship
- Prayer
- Discipleship/spiritual growth
- Compassion
- Serving in ministry
- Fellowship/community
- Evangelism/community outreach
- Missions/global outreach
- Mercy ministries
- Community service
- Teaching/educating/training/learning
- Generational relevance/diversity
- Cultural relevance/diversity
- Sacraments
- Stewardship
- Building/facilities



Sample Vision Statements: These examples are taken from a variety of churches and are provided to both expand and focus your thoughts about what you believe God wants our church to become.

Worship: We envision a time when thousands of believers are actively worshipping God with various expressions in a variety public services and private settings.

Discipleship: We envision a time when every person belonging to our church is in the process of becoming a fully surrendered disciple of Jesus Christ.

Fellowship: We envision a time when everyone coming into our church is warmly welcomed in larger group settings while also being deeply affirmed and accountable in smaller group settings so that all experience intimacy with God and vitality in interpersonal relationships.

Serving: We envision a time when every believer in our church is serving as a part of the body of Christ and under the Lordship of Christ as we meet the immediate and ultimate needs of all people in a loving and encouraging atmosphere, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Evangelism: We envision a time when hundreds of people are making professions of faith and being baptized annually as first steps toward full maturity in Christ.

Cultural & Generational Diversity: We envision a time when we have a congregation that is ethnically diverse and that ministers effectively to the needs of people regardless of age, race, or social-economic status.

Outreach: We envision a time when our church is so compassionate that people are drawn from impossible situations into a loving and friendly circle of hope, where Christ is shared, love is found, and acceptance is given.

Compassion: We envision a time when our church is a place where the hurting, the depressed, and the confused can find love, acceptance, hope, forgiveness, guidance, healing, and encouragement.

Serving in Ministry: We envision a time when every believer in our church is being equipped for ministry by helping them discover the gifts and talents God gave them.

Building, Facilities, & Grounds: We envision a time when we have at least 30 acres of land upon which is built a regional church for XXXX County with beautiful, yet simple facilities including a worship center seating thousands, a counseling and prayer center, classrooms for Bible studies and training lay ministers, and a recreation area. All of this will be designed to minister to the total person – spiritually, emotionally, physically, and socially – and set in a peaceful, inspiring landscape.

Now that you have been inspired, it's your turn.

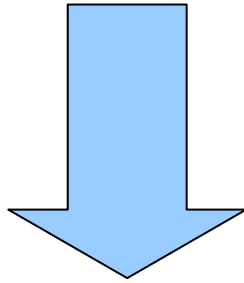


Christ Community Church

Your initial *Vision Statement* input is **due by Friday, May 15, at 5 PM**. There are 4 ways you can provide this initial input...

- Use the *Vision Statement Input Form* on the Visioning Website.
- Email your input to: input@webcoach4u.com
- Mail the attached *Vision Statement Input Form* to the church office.
- Deliver the attached *Vision Statement Input Form* to the church office.

Vision Statement Input Form





Christ Community Church

Vision Statement Input Form

Due: Friday, May 15 2009, by 5 PM

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email (if you have one): _____

Category Statement