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Dillon Community Church
2017-20 Ministry Plan

(August 26, 2018)

*As disciples of Jesus, our mission is to love,
serve, and teach.*

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1. INTRODUCTION

Churches, by definition, are organizations comprised of congregants in need of vision and direction. In the absence of vision, churches lose their purpose and focus and begin to accommodate themselves to their surrounding cultural climate or entrench themselves in order to feel safe. When this happens, most members fail to grasp the mission of their church in the world. In order to fulfill the mission of God (*missio Dei*) in Summit County, it is critical that we retain our focus on representing the righteousness of God to the surrounding culture. “When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices” (Prov 11:10).

This Ministry Plan presents ministry goals over the next year that fulfill our purpose and mission, and is in keeping with our values.

2. TERMS

- 2.1. Mission: a statement that answers the question, “What are we supposed to be doing?”
- 2.2. Values: Those permanent qualities that define the culture of DCC and answer the question, “What do we stand for?”
- 2.3. Vision: Statements that answer the question, “What will we look like in the future?”
- 2.4. Ministry Objective: Statements that answer the question, “What areas do we need to focus on in order to fulfill our vision?”
- 2.5. Goal: Statements that answer the question, “What will we do *this year* to complete our ministry objectives?”

3. MISSION, VALUES, AND VISION

3.1. Mission Statement

The mission statement answers the question, “What are we supposed to be doing?” The elders have approved the following mission statement:

As disciples of Christ, our mission is to love, serve, and teach.

3.2. Values

Values help us assign worth and importance to ideas, attitudes, and actions, and answer the question, “What do we stand for?” Thus, they communicate what is important in the way we relate to one another and address overall behavior. In order to answer the question, “What do we stand for?” the DCC leadership has developed the following values that will guide overall behavior at DCC:

- 3.2.1. Prayer. We value prayer as an integral means of growing a deep and abiding relationship with God. We desire prayer to be part of both the member’s personal life and the corporate experience.
- 3.2.2. Strong relationships with God. We value strong and growing relationships

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with God. We desire our members' walks to match their talks. Within the corporate setting, we desire to see the spiritual disciplines evidenced in the congregation, resulting in obvious passion for serving the Lord.

- 3.2.3.** Strong teaching and relevant communication of biblical truth. We value teaching that is biblical and in agreement with our statement of faith. We desire the teaching to be culturally relevant and transparent in order to draw the congregation deeper into God's word.
- 3.2.4.** Unity in Spirit. We value the unity of the Spirit brought about through the work of Christ. We desire to work hard to maintain this unity and to maintain a balance between truth and grace. We also desire to create an environment of openness and safety wherein the congregation is encouraged and invited to engage in civil discourse, including areas in which the church has historically disagreed.
- 3.2.5.** Community of the Saints. We value genuine and authentic community wherein the congregation can find refreshment and safety to grow in their respective areas of brokenness. We desire that this be evidenced by the shepherding of each other, the equipping of the members for ministry and spiritual life, and the deepening of relationships with one another.
- 3.2.6.** Social conscience to our neighbors. We value a thriving conscience for the social well-being of our neighbors. We desire our county to come to know Christ and realize that action in areas such as social justice, brokenness, evangelizing, caring for the hurting and marginalized, etc., is a vital goal in this process. We also desire to engage our congregants in the mission of God in Summit County and around the world.

3.3. Vision

In order to explore what our church looks like in the future, we have developed the following three vision statements for the period 2017-20.

- 3.3.1.** Loving—we will cultivate our commitment to Christ-like character.
- 3.3.2.** Serving—we will prioritize Christ-like engagement in community.
- 3.3.3.** Teaching—we will equip with Scripture in safe and life-giving ways.

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4. LOVING

4.1. Vision: We will cultivate our commitment to Christ-like character.

4.2. Ministry Objectives:

4.2.1. Nurture a church culture motivated to honor God by loving others.

4.2.1.1. Elders: Refresh DCC elder culture by reviewing the Elder Manual and the principles established by previous boards for theological method and application of scripture.

4.2.1.2. Adults: Connect people with each other by hosting at least three Q&A luncheons.

4.2.1.3. Worship: Increase unity among the worship teams by hosting an appreciation picnic.

4.2.1.4. Children: Equip the parents to process with their children what children are learning in Sunday CE classes by periodically informing them of the subjects taught.

4.2.1.5. Children: Support and encourage Sunday School teachers by caregiving, showing appreciation, and equipping with tools.

4.2.2. Devote ourselves to each other in seeking the Spirit's transforming power.

4.2.2.1. Adults: Grow our value of prayer by creating more opportunities for people to gather in prayer.

4.2.2.2. Adults: Plan the all-church retreat for September 2019.

4.2.2.3. Students: Create more intergenerational relationships in Middle School by enlisting older generations to work with students at events.

4.2.2.4. Students: Connect High School students with selective mentors to help them mature in their spiritual life.

4.2.2.5. Staff: Evaluate and assess the current small group ministry and identify next steps.

5. SERVING

5.1. Vision: We will prioritize Christ-like engagement in community.

5.2. Ministry Objectives:

5.2.1. Together identify and meet current community needs.

5.2.1.1. Adults: Consider and assess the addition of a seasonal evening church service by evaluating needs of current members and the larger community.

5.2.1.2. Children: Evaluate the effect of the nursery and hallway remodel on children's ministry and other facility usage.

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- 5.2.1.3. Benevolence: Encourage the Timberline Adult Day Services staff by working with them at their facility with their clients.
- 5.2.1.4. Local Outreach: Reestablish community partner relationships by hosting a quarterly meeting to discuss community needs.
- 5.2.1.5. Staff: Prepare staff to manage current cultural issues by providing training for staff and others in mental health issues, sexual harassment/abuse, and emergency response.
- 5.2.1.6. Worship: Enhance the congregational experience by replacing the sanctuary lighting system that is outdated and at the end-of-life.
- 5.2.1.7. Global Outreach: Enhance intergenerational engagement in serving the needs of global missionaries by refreshing the Global Outreach Advisory Board.
- 5.2.2.** Develop a theology of serving God by serving others.
 - 5.2.2.1. Adults: Evaluate the motivation to connect and serve the needs of our own church by surveying the congregation.
 - 5.2.2.2. Adults: Facilitate adult engagement in specific service opportunities by evaluating the experiences of those serving in various ministries, including greeters, ushers, Casas Por Cristo, Haiti, Elders, VBS, students.
 - 5.2.2.3. Adults: Engage new members in service opportunities by redesigning the Inquirer's Class to include identifying needs and recruiting.
 - 5.2.2.4. Students: Demonstrate unity and teach students a theology of service by providing evaluated serving experiences with other Summit County Christian groups.
 - 5.2.2.5. Benevolence: Grow in understanding genuine benevolence to a changing culture by researching and learning from current Christian best practices.
 - 5.2.2.6. Food Bank: Be more intentional about bringing Christ into the conversation by equipping our servers to have more effective conversations.

6. TEACHING

6.1. Vision: We will equip with Scripture in safe and life-giving ways.

6.2. Ministry Objectives:

6.2.1. Cultivate spiritual growth through relationships.

6.2.1.1. Adults: Cultivate increased spiritual life in adults by developing a more intergenerational mentoring and small group culture.

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- 6.2.1.2. Children and Students: Prioritize understanding age development and transitions within ministry by securing professional training for staff and advisory boards.
- 6.2.1.3. Students: Equip parents of high school students to develop wisdom by pastor-parent meetings and discussion.
- 6.2.2.** Teach the value of understanding the heart and mind of God.
 - 6.2.2.1. Adults: Engage DCC attenders in better theological thinking by developing and expanding the Christian education opportunities.
 - 6.2.2.2. All-Church: Engage each age group in the journey to learn about God by developing and implementing an age development educational philosophy that identifies DCC's priorities and practices for each age group.
 - 6.2.2.3. Worship: Integrate the Old Testament into New Testament theology by providing a community-wide Seder dinner with explanation and discussion.
 - 6.2.2.4. Staff: Facilitate congregational growth by providing church-wide access to RightNow Media teaching resources.
 - 6.2.2.5. Children: Enrich the educational process by evaluating and better incorporating use of technology and media.
 - 6.2.2.6. Students: Equip junior and senior students to develop wisdom by meeting with pastors.