

2017 Long Range Plan Bethlehem United Methodist Church

The purpose of this Long Range Plan (LRP) is to guide Bethlehem as it continually pursues its mission and vision for God's church.

Mission:

Go therefore 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 that I have commanded you.

Matt. 28:19-20

Vision:

Outward Bound, Together, With Christ Renewing Our Spirit, We seek To Make a Difference in the World Around Us Through the Power of the Holy Spirit, for the Sake of the Kingdom

Methodology

The goals and recommendations of previous LRP committees served as a guideline to develop this plan, along with demographic data, the active ministries of the church, and a space needs assessment (see Appendix 1) for improved and/or expanded facilities for worship, education, fellowship and missions. The completed goals are filed in the church office.

The goals enumerated in this plan have been developed to cover a period of approximately ten years beginning with January 2016. The projections are defined as: near term^N – 0 to 3 years; mid term^M – 4 to 6 years; and far term^F 7 to 10. ^C indicates recommendation is current and will continue.

The LRP is a living document which must be reviewed, validated for progress and updated frequently. New or emerging needs should be incorporated and priorities adjusted in response to our ever-changing community both near and far. It is recommended the LRP Committee meet quarterly to review this document.

Growth Projections

Over the last three (3) years, Bethlehem United Methodist Church has experienced a net increase in membership of 2.5%. Within the Long Range Plan (LRP) for 2017, the Long Range Plan Committee has incorporated a continued emphasis on intentional, more aggressive, goals to seek, invite and grow disciples for Christ's church, while increasing Bethlehem's membership. As such, the Long Range Plan Committee recommends an annual net increase in membership of 5%.

Long Range Planning Committee 2017

Rick Carroll, *Facilitator*

Rev. David Lord, *Pastor*

Tom Trotter, *Admin. Board Chairman*

Larry Broomall, *Council on Ministries Chair*

Lane Speck, *Lay Leader*

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Donna Broomall, *Recording Secretary*

Members at Large -

Lynda Imirie, Sheila Hardee

Kathleen Nettnin, *Children & Youth Director*

Gavin Hager - *Young Adult Representative*

- *Trustee Representative*

January 2017

2017 LONG RANGE GOALS

Goal #1 –

Develop and implement a comprehensive ministry for children, youth and young families including young adults.

Goal #2 –

Provide, strengthen and expand the ministries of the church to support the care and fellowship of the congregation and community.

Goal #3 –

Pursue intentional faith development opportunities for all age levels.

Goal #4 –

Commit to making missions at home and abroad an on-going priority in the lives of our church family.

Goal #5

Based on our Mission and Vision, continue to evaluate the church staffing and facilities to meet the future needs of the ministries of the church.

Goal #6

Share the good news of Christ's love by extending an invitation to all people to experience the welcoming, caring community at Bethlehem UMC.

Goal #7

Offer passionate worship services that connect people to God and one another.

Goal #8

Strengthen the resources of the church by developing, implementing and sustaining a comprehensive stewardship program.

Goal #9

To invite, welcome, include and support new members and visitors to Bethlehem through radical hospitality.

Goal #10

To educate, inspire, and to embrace our commitment to be Christian Caretakers of Creation

Goal #1 –

Develop and implement a comprehensive ministry for children, youth and young families including young adults.

Recommendations:

1. *Assess needs of local area youth – 6th grade through high school – for youth center (after school initially). Include assessment of space in current facilities and staffing numbers required for Safe Sanctuary and supervision.^N*

A common concern of our youth is the lack of a Christian-based place to hang out afterschool. May include organized activities e.g. sports, informal coffee-house atmosphere, Bible studies, homework corner, etc.

2. *Develop a series of informational, Bible-based programs relevant to young parents.^C*

Continue to include Wednesday night or weekend series for young parents; include invitations to MOPS, Preschool, Scouting and other parents in the community. Possible topics: marriage (Fireproof), finances (Good Cents), parenting issues, etc. Search local colleges for speakers/experts in field.

3. *Continue to expand frequency of community outreach events.^C*

These events may include VBS, Easter Egg Hunt, Rainbow Tea, Zoo Fest, Parents Night Out and others.

4. *Develop a community children's choir.^M*

Need to find choir coordinator/leader to bring together children of all denominations in an informal, enjoyable atmosphere. Suggested rehearsals from January to April, culminating in a community performance on or around Mother's Day.

5. *Seek out additional opportunities to bring together young adults in Christian discussion and/or fellowship.^C*

Encourage the young adult Sunday School class to continue studies and fellowship events. Include specific topics in Wonderful Wednesday and Sunday School programs for young adults.

6. *Evaluate the need to develop a young adult Singles Ministry for the community.^M*

7. *Add Young Adult and Family Ministries to COM for 2017.^N*

Goal #2 –

Provide, strengthen and expand the ministries of the church to support the care and fellowship of the congregation and community.

Recommendations:

1. *Strengthen our ministry to homebound and shut in church members to include regular visitation and communication through calls, cards, Sunday bulletins, meals as needed.^C*

One of the strengths of our congregation is its genuine concern and care for other church family members. Needs are often met for those who are homebound or shut in through our Circle of Christian Friends. A greater effort would improve support to those in need of assistance.

2. *Expand our response to families/spouses in times of grief, including funeral assistance, follow up during various stages of grief, etc.^C*

Given the number of those retired in our congregation, the occasion of widowed spouses is high. Initial support for those grieving is sufficient; continued follow up would extend this time of caring and concern for their loss; this would include the creation of a Grief Share Program.

3. *Extend homebound/grief care to the community including support to caregivers, etc through programs such as the Stephen Ministry.^C*
4. *Provide fellowship opportunities throughout the year to strengthen church family relationships with special consideration for those attending separate services on Sunday mornings^C.*

The warmth and friendliness of this congregation is a strength most often commented on by first time visitors and friends of our church. However, as the church grows in number, this familiarity will become more difficult to maintain, especially with two services on Sunday mornings.

5. *Extend spiritual awareness to the homebound through Sunday sermons communicated by streaming or video via church website.^C*
6. *Explore the need for programs for all families in the community e.g. support to military families, respite for caregivers, adult day care, meals on wheels, lunch, etc., possibly partnering with social services, health care and other professional resources.^N*
7. *Encourage the Circles of Christian Friends to welcome new families and visitors to the area.^C*

In addition to communicating church announcements, the members of each Circle should be encouraged to participate in greeting new families, and including them in church activities and events.

**Goal #3 –
Pursue intentional faith development* opportunities for all age levels.**

Recommendations:

1. *Continue to offer informative, dynamic Sunday School programs for all ages including preschool and Kids Korner.*^C

The Sunday School series involves children from age three years old through high school. Adult classes vary in size, but are close knit and offer a variety of studies to suit every need. Support and resources are critical to continue this successful venue for Sunday education. Kids Korner provides Scripture lessons and related activities for children up to 1st grade during the Worship Service.

2. *Offer in-depth Disciple Bible Study programs, and/or additional Bible study programs through existing or specially formed groups. Include development of neighborhood/off-site Bible study groups.*^C
3. *Continue to grow the Wonderful Wednesday ministry as an outreach for all ages to include fellowship, study, worship and support.*^C
4. *Utilize internet/web computer resources to access on-line Bible studies and other education programs.*^N

*Based on “Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation” by Robert Schnase

Goal #4 -

Commit to making missions at home and abroad an on-going priority in the lives of our church family.

Recommendations:

1. *Continue to seek mission partners around the world needing the prayers, support and resources of our congregation. (International)^C*

While fully supporting a covenant relationship with a partner church and a seminary scholarship in Hungary, and an outreach to Mi Refugio in Guatemala we should continue to see and embrace other mission opportunities and offer support and encouragement to those who carry the message of Christianity throughout the world.

2. *Encourage every church member to participate in local and/or national mission programs.^C*

One of the many strengths of this congregation is their willingness to serve in charitable organizations; e.g. Lake Christian Ministries, SML Good Neighbors, Habitat for Humanity, BUMC Good Samaritans, Society of St. Andrew, The Henry Fork Service Center, and other organizations to help the less fortunate. The impact of having every member of the church involved in some form of mission work is a phenomenal testimony to this congregation's commitment to serving others.

While some members are eager to provide prayers, fund and specific resources, others have expressed a willingness to serve on work teams, to give hands-on aid to victims needing disaster relief. These individuals should be recruited and prepared to go when needed.

- a. Sponsor a "Mission Sunday" to showcase various missions/ministries the church is involved in. Have a Mission Focus, perhaps in the Fellowship Hall, using the dividers to post photos of people involved in ministries with quotes about personal experiences added about it.^N
- b. Find ways to include working people and those who attend school in meetings. Consider moving committee meetings to the late afternoon or evenings to accommodate working/school people.^N
- c. Enlist volunteers for Disaster Relief (Early Response Team), as well as other mission teams needed locally and nationally.^C

3. *Involve families in mission work teams^C*

Continue to explore opportunities for persons of all ages and abilities to serve in missions. Draw and expand upon intergenerational mission trips and children's mission days. Identify active ways for those unable to go to support these forms of outreach.

- a. Encourage youth mission teams.^C
 - b. Involve all age groups in mission programs including children through older, less mobile adults to provide multiple opportunities for participation (e.g., prayers, notes of encouragement, etc.).^C
 - c. Offer more shorter-term mission projects, day, weekend or long weekend, with age and talent diversity. On short-term projects, identify some that will emphasize family togetherness; perhaps once a quarter (for example, Stop Hunger Now).^N
4. *Pursue additional local missions and ministries*^C
- a. Explore the feasibility of providing a meal for people as a community outreach – once a week or once a month, but on a regular basis, for a specified target group.^N
 - b. Make a broader appeal to the community for the Thanksgiving meal. Expand the appeal to our own congregation and also advertise it to the broader community as an outreach.^N
 - c. Explore the feasibility of creating a church vegetable garden or partnering with existing gardening efforts to provide food for needy families.^F
 - d. Explore the feasibility of providing vocational training to homeowners for home repairs, basic tool use and repairs.^M
 - e. Develop a partnership with Heart Havens to establish a home here at the lake.^M
5. *Continue local mission work with ecumenical bonding through periodic meetings with other local churches and/or organizations.*^C
- a. Develop partnerships with Epworth, Patmos, etc. Partner on a mission project; most small churches are in survival mode. Explore the feasibility of partnering and not duplicating efforts; for example, partner with church, civic, and charitable organizations such as Bridges Out of Poverty’s “Getting Ahead” program. Emphasize partnering in more endeavors so as not to reinvent the effort.^M

Goal #5-

Based on our Mission and Vision, continue to evaluate the church staffing and facilities to meet the future needs of the ministries of the church.

Recommendations:

1. *Maintain an on-going assessment of the facility needs of our church ministries.^C*
2. *Assess multimedia needs for Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall and incorporate into annual budget.^C*
3. *Administrative Board appoint a committee to assess future needs of the church to include:*
 - a. *Pursue the purchase of properties adjoining the church in anticipation of expansion needs such as additional parking, cemetery space, new families, picnic shelter.^N*
 - b. *Evaluate logistics/placement/costs for electronic church sign clearly visible from Rt.122.^N*
 - c. *Expansion of Sanctuary.^N*
 - d. *Assess the opportunities for developing an off-site campus, satellite facility or starting a new church.^M*
4. *Add a paid technical expert.^N*
5. *As the congregation grows in number, prepare to hire a minister to assist with visitation, evangelism activities, etc.^N*

The pastor already is currently fully committed with responsibilities for the spiritual guidance of the congregation. Denomination guidelines suggest when a congregation reaches 500 members with 200 in attendance, an assistant pastor could be hired to share this responsibility and possibly lead an additional worship service.

Goal #6-

Share the good news of Christ's love by extending an invitation to all people to experience the welcoming, caring community at Bethlehem UMC.

Recommendations

- 1. Develop the skills and abilities of the evangelism team and the congregation to share our faith with others. Through training programs, tools, such as social media and opportunities, strive to help everyone fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus as described in Matthew 28:19-20.^C*
- 2. Pursue media and other avenues for evangelism such as weekly news column, radio, billboard announcements, bulk mailings, etc.; increase presence at community events^N*

Embracing our vision to be “Outward Bound” we should take every opportunity to reach out to the community at local events such as the Chamber Expo, Chili Festival, Wine Festival, etc.

- 3. In conjunction with Goal #2/Recommendation 6. as determined by an assessment of needs, offer assistance such as after school care, mentoring, breakfast or after-school meal programs, parenting programs, etc.^N*

This will provide opportunities to the church family to assist in meeting the immediate needs of individuals and families in our surrounding community as well as offering a warm, caring place to worship and fellowship together.

- 4. See Goal #5, Recommendation 5.*
- 5. Schedule invitational outreach programs for the community to include “comfortable” worship opportunities, e.g. special gospel/school musical groups, or community mission events.^N*

Goal #7 –

Offer passionate worship* services that connect people to God and one another.

Recommendations:

1. *Utilize the worship committee to assist in planning passionate worship services at BUMC.^C*

Working with pastor and music staff, include the worship committee in planning services that result in a meaningful and passionate experience.

2. *Introduce elements in our current Sunday morning worship services to create a more blended style of worship.^C*

In planning for more passionate worship, the worship committee will retain traditional music and prayers while incorporating new elements to create a worship experience that has a broader appeal.

3. *Explore offering an additional worship that is contemporary in style.^C*

While traditional and blended worship services appeal to many, there are those who are looking for a worship style that is more contemporary. This service would incorporate more praise and worship music, a more relaxed atmosphere for worship. It may include the use of a praise band or a variety of musical instruments, and audio visual presentations related to music and the message. This service may take place in a place other than the sanctuary and may need a worship leader (musician) who would coordinate this service in addition to the pastor and the worship committee.

4. *Offer worship services in addition to Sunday morning that are periodic and/ or seasonal.^N*

Throughout the year, additional services of worship led by guest speakers, music groups, etc. would be offered. The community would especially be invited and would be shown radical hospitality. These services could center on seasonal events i.e. Christmas, Lent, Easter or other special occasions.

5. *Offer worship outside the walls of the church; beside the lake, Runk and Pratt, etc.^N*

*Based on “Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation” by Robert Schnase

Goal #8-
Strengthen the resources of the church by developing, implementing and sustaining a comprehensive stewardship program.

Recommendations:

1. *Develop and present a spiritually based education series focused on tithing and “extravagant generosity.” Determine appropriate timing in the church calendar and coordinate its integration.^C*
2. *Develop a systematic program of ongoing communications to reinforce and educate, utilizing the church newsletter, web page, Christian Education classes, Sunday bulletins, monthly “Ministry Moments during the worship service, and similar media/other opportunities.^C*
3. *Develop and initiate an annual financial pledge appeal culminating with a “Commitment Sunday” and focusing on spiritually based support for the ministries of the church.^C*
4. *Develop a program of estate planning (Wills, Life Annuities, Endowment Gifts, etc.) to provide opportunities for individuals and families to leave a legacy and sustain the church into its future.^N*
5. *Explore the need for a capital campaign drive to provide for the future expansion of church facilities.^N*
6. *Annually update and assess the S.T.A.R.S. (Sharing Talents And Renewing Spirits) survey.^C*

Goal #9-

To invite, welcome, include and support new members and visitors to Bethlehem through radical hospitality*.

Recommendations

1. *Emphasize the responsibility for extending radical hospitality to new members and visitors belongs to each member of the congregation, especially those involved in the worship service.^C*

Utilize all participants in the worship service – ushers, lay readers, altar presentation, music – to consciously extend assistance to newcomers, making it more comfortable and inviting for them to take part in the Sunday morning service.

2. *Establish a welcome committee to call on visitors at home.^N*
3. *Find ways to involve new members and visitors in the life of the church.^N*

A deliberate effort should be made to promote ways to enhance visitors' first impressions and embrace new church family members. Consideration should be given to a regularly scheduled new member class, sponsor-couples to introduce and encourage new members' involvement in church events, get- to- know- you informal coffee gatherings, etc.

4. *Recruit Mentors for new members/families or guests, to invite them to participate in the ministries and missions of the church.^C*
5. *Begin to develop a parking lot greeters ministry to make our church more welcoming.^N*

*Based on "Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation" by Robert Schnase

Goal #10

To educate, encourage, inspire and commit to being Christian Caretakers of Creation.

Recommendations

1. *Guide the Ministries of the Church to embrace an earth-friendly focus in their planned programs/activities.^N*
2. *Reduce the carbon footprint of the Church by assessing its use of energy, lighting, water and other resources.^M*
3. *Encourage recycling in all areas of the Church and at home.^N*
 - a. Provide recycle containers throughout the church for paper, glass, plastics, cans.
 - b. Educate members to recognize what is or isn't recyclable.
4. *Offer special events during the year highlighting the beauty of God's creation and ways to be better caretakers of it.^N*
5. *Contribute ideas and information regularly to the Church newsletter.^N*

APPENDIX I

Space Needs Assessment

A. The anticipated space needs of the ministries and worship programs of the church must be considered.

- a. Sanctuary – Anticipating a growth in membership at the present rate, the need for additional pew seating and communion rail space is inevitable. Subsequently, the chancel area and choir loft will need to be expanded proportionately. Provisions need to be made for the use of new technology in the worship service such as a sound system control booth in the back of the sanctuary, audio visual equipment, cameras, power point projections, etc. Ideally, the design of a new sanctuary would also include the following features: a Cry Room with a glass divider so services could be seen and heard; a gathering foyer space accessible to the sanctuary with coat racks and areas for displays, brochures, etc; a prayer room/meditation area which can be entered from the inside and out; a parlor near the sanctuary suitable for funeral gatherings or a bride dressing area, possibly including a small kitchenette suitable for small dinners.

Immediate Recommendation

- b. Sound System – A professional overhaul of the sound system including the capability of recording services and special programs needs to be implemented.^N Recently the PA system was enhanced by the addition of two, uni-directional microphones to help broadcast announcements, Scripture readings, etc. However, the system is extremely sensitive and needs to be professionally balanced i.e. adjusted routinely; it has not been attended to for several years. In addition, the audio-recording capability needs to be reestablished.
- c. Grounds – Based on the expansion of the facility, a larger parking area will be needed. A bigger, covered picnic facility with more seating will be needed. A larger playground, basketball/volleyball court will need to be developed.

^N

APPENDIX II

2017 Summary of Near, Mid and Long Term Recommendations

Current Recommendations to Continue

Goal #1

Develop a series of informational, Bible-based programs relevant to young parents.

Continue to expand frequency of community outreach events.

Seek out additional opportunities to bring together young adults in Christian discussion and/or fellowship.

Goal #2

Strengthen our ministry to homebound and shut in church members to include regular visitation and communication through calls, cards, Sunday bulletins, meals as needed.

Expand our response to families/spouses in times of grief, including funeral assistance, follow up during various stages of grief, etc.

Extend homebound/grief care to the community including support to caregivers, etc through programs such as the Stephen Ministry.

Provide fellowship opportunities throughout the year to strengthen church family relationships with special consideration for those attending separate services on Sunday mornings.

Encourage the Circles of Christian Friends to welcome new families and visitors to the area.

Extend spiritual awareness to the homebound through Sunday sermons communicated by streaming or video via church website.

Goal #3

Continue to offer informative, dynamic Sunday School programs for all ages including preschool and Kids Korner.

Offer in-depth Disciple Bible Study programs, and/or additional Bible study programs through existing or specially formed groups. Include development of neighborhood/off-site Bible study groups.

Continue to grow the Wonderful Wednesday ministry as an outreach for all ages to include fellowship, study and worship.

Goal #4

Continue to seek mission partners around the world needing the prayers, support and resources of our congregation (International).

Enlist volunteers for Disaster Relief (Early Response Team), as well as other mission teams needed locally and nationally.

Encourage youth mission teams.

Involve all age groups in mission programs including children through older-less mobile adults to provide multiple opportunities for participation (e.g., prayers, notes of encouragement, etc.)

Encourage every church member to participate in local and/or national mission programs.

Involve families in mission work teams. Encourage youth mission teams. Involve all age groups in mission programs including children through older less mobile adults to provide multiple opportunities for participation (i.e., prayers, note of encouragement, etc.)

Pursue additional local missions and ministries.

Continue local mission work with ecumenical bonding through periodic meetings with other local churches.

Goal #5

Maintain an on-going assessment of the facility needs of our church ministries.

Assess multimedia needs for Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall and incorporate into annual budget.

Goal #6

Develop the skills and abilities of the evangelism team and the congregation to share our faith with others. Through training programs, tools such as social media and opportunities, strive to help everyone fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus as described in Matthew 28:19-20.

Goal #7

Utilize the worship committee to assist in planning passionate worship services at BUMC.

Introduce elements in our current Sunday morning worship services to create a more blended style of worship.

The worship committee will explore offering an additional worship that is contemporary in style.

Goal #8

Develop and present a spiritually based education series focused on tithing and “extravagant generosity.”

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Determine appropriate timing in the church calendar and coordinate its integration.

Develop a systematic program of ongoing communications to reinforce and educate, utilizing the church newsletter, web page, Christian Education classes, Sunday bulletins, monthly “Ministry Moments during the worship service, and similar media/other opportunities.

Develop and initiate an annual financial pledge appeal culminating with a “Commitment Sunday” and focusing on spiritually based support for the ministries of the church.

Annually update and assess the S.T.A.R.S. (Sharing Talents and Renewing Spirits) survey.

Goal #9

Emphasize the responsibility for extending radical hospitality to new members and visitors belongs to each member of the congregation, especially those involved in the worship service.

Recruit Mentors for new members/families or guests, to invite them to participate in the ministries and missions of the church.

Near Term (0-3 years) Recommendations:

Goal #1

Assess needs of local area youth – 6th grade through high school – for youth center (after school initially). Include assessment of space in current facilities and staffing numbers required for Safe Sanctuary and supervision.

Add Young Adult Ministries and Family Ministries to COM for 2016.

Goal #2

Explore the need for programs for all families in the community e.g. support to military families, respite for caregivers, adult day care, meals on wheels, lunch, etc., possibly partnering with social services, health care and other professional resources.

Goal #3

Utilize internet/web computer resources to access on-line Bible studies and other education programs.

Goal #4

Sponsor a “Mission Sunday” to showcase various missions/ministries the church is involved in. Have a Mission Focus, perhaps in the Fellowship Hall, using the dividers to post photos of people involved in ministries with quotes about personal experiences added about it.

Find ways to include working people and those who attend school in meetings. Consider moving committee meetings to the late afternoon or evenings to accommodate working/school people.

Explore the feasibility of providing a meal for people as a community outreach – once a week or once a month, but on a regular basis, for a specified target group.^N

More short-term mission projects, day, weekend or long weekend, with age and talent diversity. On short-term projects, identify some that will emphasize family togetherness; perhaps once a quarter (for example, Stop Hunger Now).

Make a broader appeal to the community for the Thanksgiving meal. Expand the appeal to our own congregation and also advertise it to the broader community as an outreach.

Goal #5

Evaluate logistics/placement/costs for electronic church sign clearly visible from route 122.

Expansion of Sanctuary.

Pursue the purchase of properties adjoining the church in anticipation of expansion needs such as additional parking, cemetery space, new facilities, etc.

Goal #6

Pursue media and other avenues for evangelism such as weekly news column, radio, billboard announcements, bulk mailings, etc.; increase presence at community events

In conjunction with Goal #2/Recommendation 6 as determined by an assessment of needs, offer assistance such as after school care, mentoring, breakfast or after-school meal programs, parenting programs, etc.

Schedule invitational outreach programs for the community to include “comfortable” worship opportunities, e.g. special gospel/school musical groups, or community mission events.

As the congregation grows in number, prepare for the addition of an assistant pastor to assist with visitation, evangelism activities, etc.

Goal #7

Offer worship services in addition to Sunday morning that are periodic and /or seasonal.

Offer worship outside walls of the church; beside the lake, Runk and Pratt, etc.

Goal #8

Develop a program of estate planning (Wills, Life Annuities, Endowment Gifts, etc.) to provide opportunities for individuals and families to leave a legacy and sustain the church into its future.

Explore the need for a capital campaign drive to provide for the future expansion of church facilities.

Goal #9

Establish a welcome committee to call on visitors at home.

Find ways to involve new members and visitors in the life of the church.

Begin to develop a parking lot ministry to make our church more welcoming.

Goal #10

Guide the ministries of the Church to embrace an earth-friendly focus in their planned programs/activities.

Encourage recycling in all areas of the church and at home.

Provide recycle containers throughout the church for paper, glass, plastics, cans.

Educate members to recognize what is or what isn't recyclable.

Offer special events during the year highlighting the beauty of God's creation and ways to be better caretakers of it.

Contribute ideas and information regularly to the church newsletter.

Summary of Mid Term (4 – 6 years) Recommendations

Goal #1

Develop a community children's choir.

Evaluate the need to develop a young adult single's ministry for the community.

Goal #4

Explore the feasibility of providing vocational training to homeowners for home repairs; basic tool use and repairs.

Develop partnerships with Epworth, Patmos, etc. Partner on a mission project; most small churches are in survival mode. Explore the feasibility of partnering and not duplicating efforts; for example, partner with Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Emphasize partnering in more endeavors so as not to reinvent the effort.

Explore the feasibility of providing vocational training to homeowners for home repairs, basic tool use and repairs.

Develop a partnership with Heart Havens to establish a home here at the lake.

Goal #7

Assess the opportunities for developing an offsite campus, satellite facility or starting a new church.

Goal #10

Reduce the carbon footprint of the church by assessing its use of energy, lighting, water and other resources.

Summary of Far Term (7-10 years) Recommendations

Goal #4

Explore the feasibility of creating a church vegetable garden or partnering with existing gardening efforts to provide food for needy families.