

DRAFT

Dillon Community Church

2022-23 Ministry Plan

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

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

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 redemptive and life-giving ways.

3.4. Priorities

- 3.4.1.** To help the congregation understand that we 1) need each other, and 2) we are beholden to each other.
- 3.4.2.** To continue to adjust to a different post-pandemic congregation.
- 3.4.3.** To reinforce our relational connections with those inside and outside the congregation.

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 that honors God by treating each other with dignity and love.

4.2.1.1. Children's Ministry: Encourage and create community among parents and children by regular intentional family nights and other planned events.

4.2.1.2. Women's Ministry: Meet women where they are in their faith journey by working more intentionally to integrate teaching with relationship.

4.2.1.3. Technology: Enhance the Sunday morning experience by streamlining and simplifying the current technology.

4.2.1.4. Benevolence: Convey our care for the families we serve by emphasizing to them their importance to God.

4.2.1.5. Worship & Arts: Fostering a creative intergenerational worship community by integrating music, arts, and technology.

4.2.1.6. Worship & Arts: Create opportunities for those involved in worship and arts to grow in their faith and love for God by hosting gathered events.

4.2.1.7. Adults: Developing a better understanding of commitment to and care of our church community by teaching, recruiting, and serving.

4.2.1.8. Missions: Continue to develop a church culture that engages personally with missionaries and agencies that we support.

4.2.1.9. Congregation: Appreciate those who serve by expressing gratitude in various ways.

4.2.2. Together with the Holy Spirit, heal our congregation during a time of fear and uncertainty.

4.2.2.1. Student Ministries: Better develop students' Christian identity by engaging both students and parents in their cognitive stages.

4.2.2.2. Facilities: Improve the Children's Ministry area by developing a plan to remodel the space.

4.2.2.3. Adults: Increase connectivity by starting at least three new small groups.

4.2.2.4. Adults: Continue to focus our congregation on God's house by focusing on God's goodness and servant heart.

4.2.2.5. Adults: Encourage our church by hosting an all-church retreat.

5. SERVING

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

5.2. Ministry Objectives:

5.2.1. Together identify and meet changing community needs.

5.2.1.1. Benevolence: Strengthen relationships with our community partners which have changed during the lockdown by connecting with them.

5.2.1.2. Food Bank: Find new Food Bank manager to fill the empty position.

5.2.1.3. Food Bank: Evaluate and respond to challenges around food acquisition.

5.2.1.4. Worship & Arts: Increase the excitement around worship and arts by better use of technology.

5.2.1.5. Worship & Arts: Create opportunities for community musicians to experience the reality of our faith by inviting them to join us in musical worship.

5.2.1.6. Children's Ministry: Provide opportunities for our neighbors and young families to experience the reality of our faith by hosting events for our neighbors and young families.

5.2.2. Rediscover serving God together.

5.2.2.1. Elders: Continue to focus on developing one common leadership heart by working through a theology of leadership.

5.2.2.2. Adults: Create new service opportunities by starting a new service oriented small group.

5.2.2.3. Student Ministries: Help middle school students develop selflessness by creating opportunities for discussion and practice.

5.2.2.4. Technology: Create opportunities to serve by identifying and training a technician team.

5.2.2.5. Women's Ministry: Serve the community and improve cultural awareness by hosting a DCC coat drive in early winter 2022.

5.2.2.6. Benevolence: Study changing needs within the community to learn how DCC can adjust effectively to meet those needs.

5.2.2.7. Food Bank: Emphasize the importance of ministering to the community by training and seeking additional volunteers to consistently serve at the food bank.

5.2.2.8. Worship & Arts: Reengage multi-generations in the various worship cultures by inviting all generations into the worship ministry.

- 5.2.2.9. Missions: Highlight to a changing congregation the importance of partnering with others who serve locally and abroad.

6. TEACHING

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

6.2. Ministry Objectives:

6.2.1. Cultivate spiritual growth through authentic relationships.

6.2.1.1. Women's Ministry: Inspire growth in their faith by using more targeted teaching tools, devotionals, and prayer opportunities.

6.2.1.2. Student Ministries: Assist families and students navigating current issues by providing education, connection, and support.

6.2.1.3. Children's Ministry: Encourage parents to connect with each other and new families by initiating and assisting in small group formation.

6.2.1.4. Women's Ministry: Promote involvement in decision-making by personally interviewing (surveying) women to determine their needs and desired learning topics.

6.2.1.5. Men's Ministry: Continue developing spiritual growth through weekly teaching and fellowship.

6.2.2. Teach the heart and mind of God in a world of uncertainty.

6.2.2.1. Children's Ministry: Equip parents to handle difficult topics and cultural differences with their children by hosting parent meetings.

6.2.2.2. Technology: Create more opportunities for educational classes by separating technology in the Commons.

6.2.2.3. Staff: Enhance safety practices and protocols by providing staff, elders, and volunteer continuing education.

6.2.2.4. Student Ministries: Strengthen faith by creating opportunities to form and discuss beliefs.

6.2.2.5. Adults: Provide better Christian Education opportunities by restructuring the Sunday Morning services to include Sunday School.

6.2.2.6. Student Ministries: Increase student participation and learning by starting a Sunday morning High School Sunday School.

6.2.2.7. Adults: Improve understanding of the Holy Spirit by teaching a class on the Holy Spirit.