

Northpark Community Church - Vision Statement

September 9, 2007 (Version 1.1)

PURPOSE / MISSION:

"Building lives through relationships...

...Relationship with God,

...Relationships with each other,

...Relationships with those who do not yet know Christ!"

FOUNDATION:

The Great Commandment – Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV)

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

- To love God – constantly becoming more devoted followers of Jesus Christ.
- To love others – considering others as important as ourselves and worthy of our attention, loving care and ministry/service efforts.

The Great Commission – Matthew 28:19-20 (TEV)

"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, 20 and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

- To communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ to ALL people – next door, across town, and around the world.
- To communicate the unchanging truth about Jesus Christ and His teaching in a culturally relevant manner.
- To disciple people – teaching them how to become a devoted follower of Jesus Christ and then walk with them through the process of conversion, maturation, to ministry/service.

Church = A Place of Healing, Understanding and Reconciliation – Galatians 6:1-3 (NLT)

"Dear brothers and sisters, if another Christian is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. 2 Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ. 3 If you think you are too important to help someone in need, you are only fooling yourself. You are really a nobody."

- To provide love, acceptance and forgiveness for those who have failed.
- To seek and provide restoration – for ourselves and for others.
- To constantly be aware of our weaknesses and guard against personal and church failure.

A Call to Service/Servant-hood – Philippians 2:1-8 (TEV)

"Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another. 2 I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. 3 Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. 4 And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. 5 The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had:

6 He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to become equal with God.

7 Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and appeared in human likeness.

8 He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death — his death on the cross."

- To live in loving unity.
- To constantly strive for Christ-likeness.
- To live lives of humility and service.

VISION:

- To constantly grow, individually and corporately, into devoted followers of Jesus Christ.
 - Through the building of our relationships with God
 - Through the building of our relationships with each other
 - § The larger we grow the smaller we must become! Discipleship takes place in and through relationships.
 - § We must [somehow] insure that everyone is involved in a small group or mentoring relationship of some kind.
 - Through large gatherings [services], small groups, one on one mentoring, and other discipleship opportunities [including, but certainly not limited to, Sunday morning classes for ALL ages].
- To Reach, Teach, Train and Send
 - To love those who do not know Jesus Christ in order that they might become interested in Him.
 - To invite our friends to join us in an authentic Christian experience that is casual, comfortable, and relevant to the unchurched and those who have become disillusioned by/with church.
 - To lead people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - To help people to grow [be discipled] in their relationship with Jesus.
 - To train/equip people to do ministry/service.
 - To release people into ministry/service.
- To work in cooperation with other pastors, churches, ministries and agencies in order to advance the cause and Kingdom of Jesus Christ.
- To become a training center:
 - For Northparkers:
 - § Teaching married couples about God's plan for marriage.
 - § Teaching parents how to disciple their children and teenagers.
 - § Teaching singles about the joys and opportunities of singleness, and affirming their position in the Body of Christ.
 - § Teaching Christians how to share their faith.
 - § Training Christians for missions trips/opportunities.
 - For pastors
 - For other churches
 - For church planters
- To do "whatever it takes" to reach people for Jesus Christ:
 - Always being externally focused!
 - Church Plants
 - Forsaking our own preferences for the benefit of others
 - To build the next generation [every church is only one generation from extinction].
 - To constantly [now and always] find creative solutions to overcoming barriers to the ministry and effectiveness of Northpark Community Church!