

STRENGTH TRAINING

Our Culture
Our Mission
Our Vision
Our Beliefs

**WELCOME TO
WHERE NEW
DISCIPLES ARE
TRAINED!**

LET'S START IN THE LIVING ROOM

- A. THIS WHERE WE ALL STARTED. RIGHT IN A LIVING ROOM.**
- B. OUR HISTORY IS VITALLY IMPORTANT**
- C. OUR HISTORY IS APART OF US, YET WE ARE NOT CONFINED TO OR DEFINED BY OUR HISTORY.**
- D. HISTORY IS DEFINED AS THE WHOLE SERIES OF PAST EVENTS CONNECTED WITH SOMEONE OR SOMETHING OR THE STUDY OF PAST EVENTS.**
- E. OUR HISTORY CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR TO LEARN, GROW, AND EXPAND IF WE'RE WILLING TO BE TAUGHT.**
- F. THE PAST IS OUR TEACHER.**
- G. OUR HISTORY DEVELOPS: CULTURE.**



WHAT IS OUR CULTURE?

- Firstly, what is culture? Culture is defined as the proper way to behave within an organization
- Culture is defined as *the collection of values, expectations, and practices that guide and inform the actions of all team members. Think of it as the collection of traits that make your company what it is.*
- *Culture is usually unsaid, but very much so alive.*
- What are some of our cultural practices that make The Place of Strength, us?



HEALTHY CULTURE



UNHEALTHY CULTURE

CULTURE STATEMENT

AT THE PLACE OF STRENGTH STL, WE ARE BUILDING A CHRIST-CENTERED CULTURE ROOTED IN FAITH, LOVE, TRUTH, AND TRANSFORMATION. WE ARE A SPIRIT-LED, WORD-ANCHORED COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE CAN GROW, HEAL, AND BE EMPOWERED TO WALK IN THEIR GOD-GIVEN PURPOSE.

WE ARE A HOUSE OF PRAYER, A HUB OF RESTORATION, AND A LAUNCHPAD FOR LEADERS. OUR CULTURE VALUES AUTHENTIC WORSHIP, BIBLICAL TEACHING, RADICAL HOSPITALITY, AND MULTI-GENERATIONAL IMPACT. WE HONOR THE PAST, LIVE BOLDLY IN THE PRESENT, AND PREPARE FOR A POWERFUL FUTURE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

HERE, STRENGTH IS NOT JUST FOUND IN PERSONAL ABILITY, BUT IN OUR UNITY, OUR OBEDIENCE TO GOD, AND OUR COMMITMENT TO LIFTING ONE ANOTHER. WE CONFRONT COMPROMISE WITH TRUTH AND EMBRACE BROKENNESS WITH GRACE, BELIEVING EVERY PERSON CAN BE MADE WHOLE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

THIS IS THE PLACE OF STRENGTH—WHERE WE MAKE PEOPLE, FAMILIES, AND CITIES STRONGER. A PLACE WHERE FAITH IS STRONG, FAMILIES ARE COVERED, LEADERS ARE RAISED, AND THE CITY IS CHANGED.

LOCAL



FAMILY CHURCH



LOCAL

GLOBAL



FAMILY EXPERIENCE

GLOBAL CHURCH



LOCAL

A GLOCAL CHURCH

\$16,358.00

2020 GIVING CAMPAIGN "YOU JUST NEED ONE"

\$46,109.00

2021 GIVING CAMPAIGN “BUY BACK THE BLOCK”

182%

BETWEEN 2020 AND 2021

EXPANDAY

2025 GIVING CAMPAIGN

















WHERE WE'RE HEADED

**WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAKING THE
WORLD STRONGER ONE ONE PERSON,
ONE FAMILY, ONE CITY, AT A TIME.**

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

- 1) Creating platforms and offering opportunities to preach and demonstrate the gospel to every person that would hear it.
- 2) Cultivating innovative ministries that minister to the entire family.
- 3) Engage the culture and communities that our ministry(s) exist in.

Developing the whole person to make this same impact in their own lives, families, and communities.



HOW WE GET THERE

MAKING: PEOPLE STRONGER

CREATING PLATFORMS AND OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH AND
DEMONSTRATE THE GOSPEL TO EVERY PERSON THAT WOULD HEAR IT.

1.

PROFESSIONAL

2.

POWERFUL

3.

PROPHETIC

PROFESSIONAL

— WORSHIP SERVICES

— VISITOR EXPERIENCE

— ONLINE EXPERIENCE (ONLINE CHURCH)

— MUSIC AND FINE ARTS

— HOSPITALITY

POWERFUL

— WORSHIP SERVICES

— VISITOR EXPERIENCE

— ONLINE EXPERIENCE (ONLINE CHURCH)

— MUSIC AND FINE ARTS

— HOSPITALITY

— IN-DEPTH TEACHING/DISCIPLESHIP/SMALL GROUPS

— BIBLICAL EDUCATION

MAKING: FAMILIES STRONGER

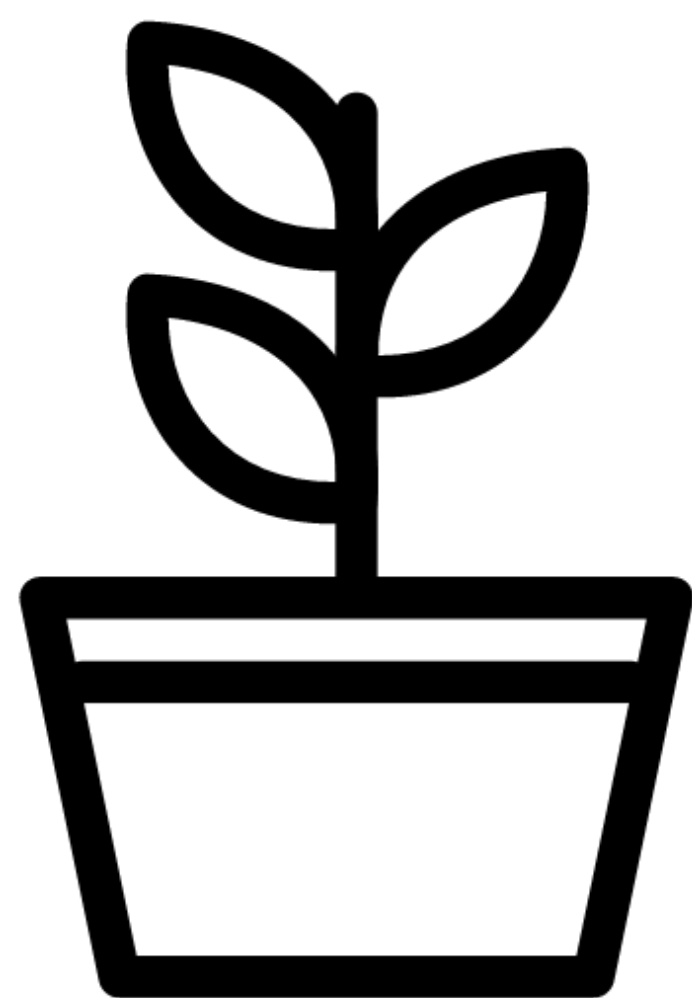
CULTIVATING INNOVATIVE MINISTRIES THAT MINISTER TO THE ENTIRE FAMILY.

- 1. RELEVANCY**
- 2. ENGAGEMENT**
- 3. EFFECTIVENESS**

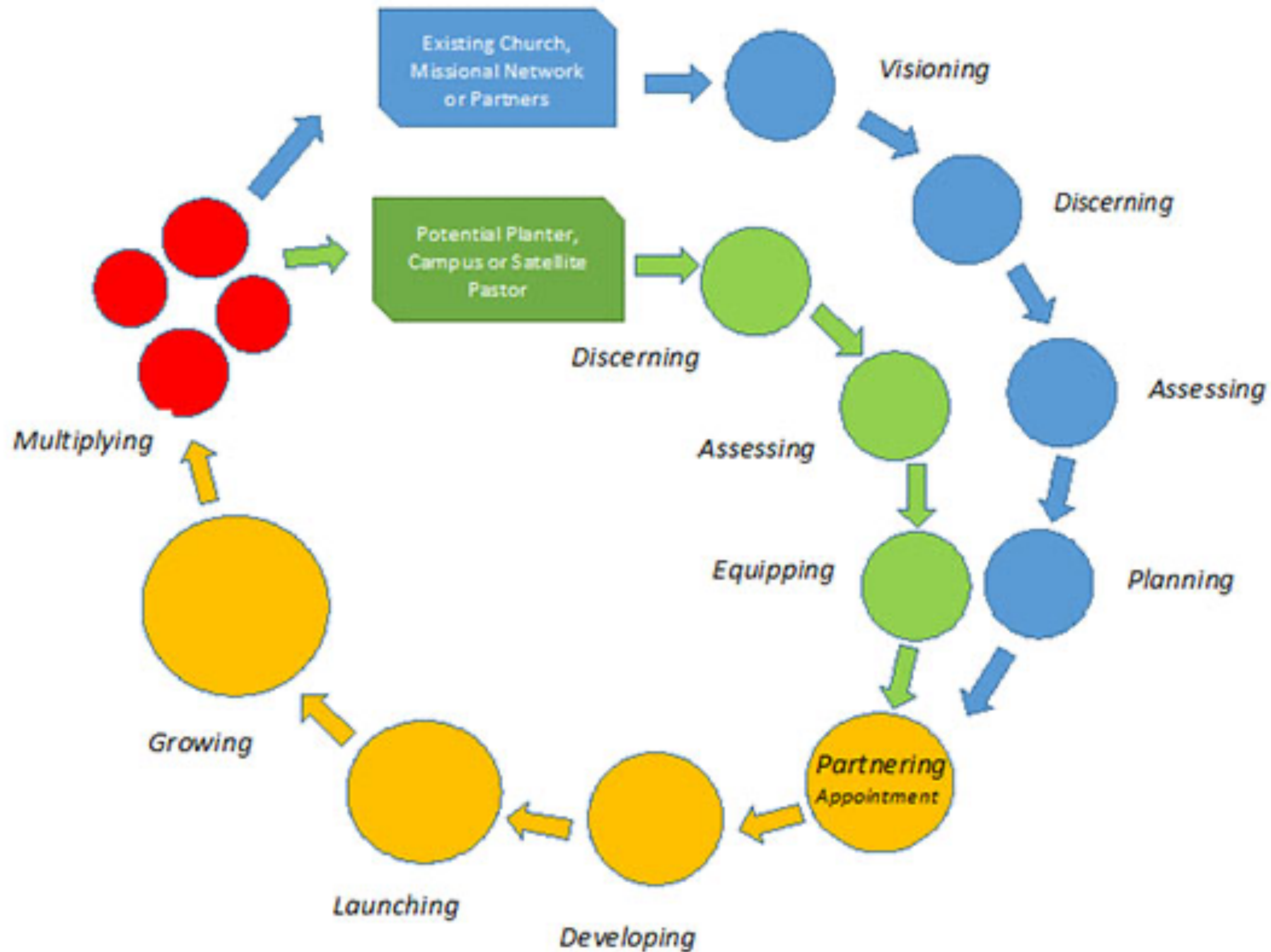
MAKING: COMMUNITIES STRONGER

ENGAGING THE CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES THAT OUR MINISTRY(S) EXIST IN

- 1. EVANGELISM/DISCIPLSHIP**
- 2. SOCIAL ACTIVISM**
- 3. CHURCH PLANTING**
- 4. MARKETPLACE PRESENCE**



CHURCH PLANTING



CHURCH PLANT **SUBJECTS**

1. SOUTH CITY SAINT LOUIS

2. CENTRAL WEST END

3. ILLINOIS (ESTL/FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS)

4. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



MARKETPLACE PRESENCE

The Marketplace is defined as **the world of trade or economic activity : the everyday world.** As believers, we work in junction with the Holy Spirit to bring the Kingdom of God into the marketplace, engaging in business that empowers the church so church can invest that capital back into our communities and parishioners.

**TITHES AND
OFFERING**

**UNITY FOR LIFE
CENTER**

**STRONG TOWER
CDC**

**UNITY FOR LIFE
HOMES**

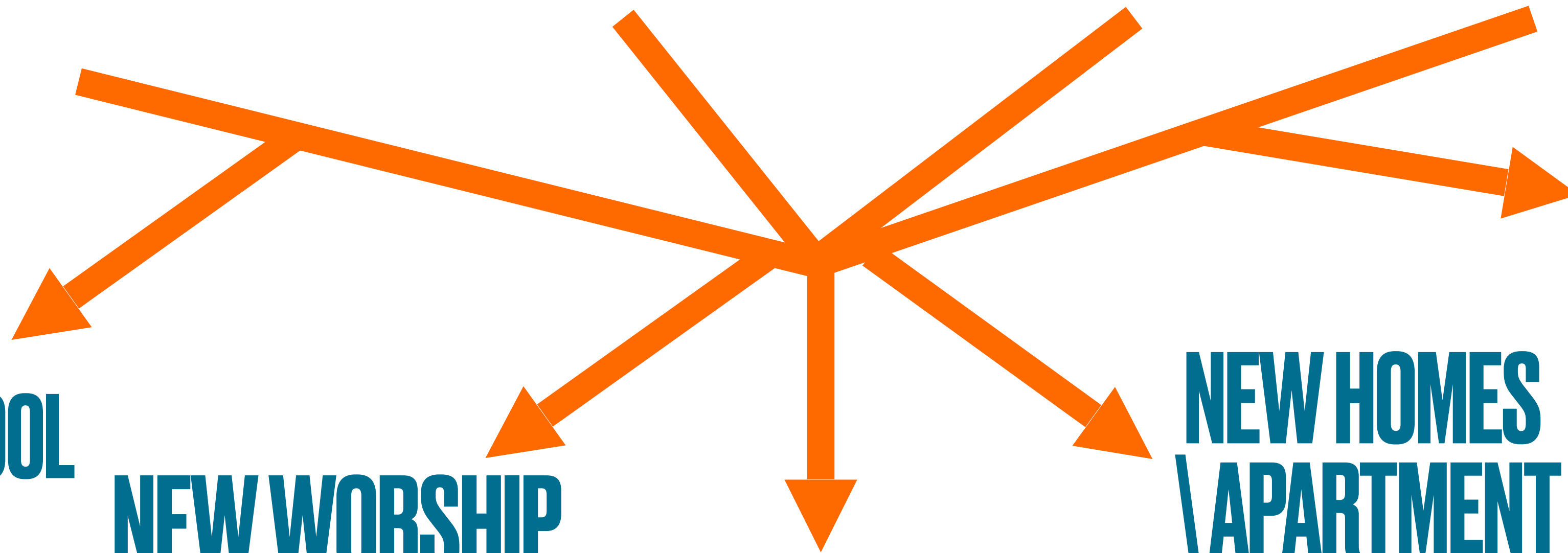
**CHURCH
PLANTS**

**MARK
TWAIN SCHOOL**

**NEW WORSHIP
FACILITY**

**DRUG REHAB
CENTER**

**NEW HOMES
/ APARTMENT
COMPLEXES**



THE NEXT YEARS

WHAT SHOULD WE EXPECT?

1. RADICAL (SPIRITUAL) CHURCH GROWTH

2. RADICAL (NUMERIC) CHURCH GROWTH

3. 4-5 BUSINESSES

WITHIN THE CHURCH

**4. SEVERAL COMMUNITY
RESOURCES BUILT**

5. TWO CAMPUS

CHURCHES PLANTED

UCC - The Place Of Strength

Our Beliefs

About The Bible

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God and contains one harmonious and sufficiently complete system of doctrine. We believe in the full

inspiration of the Word of God. We hold the Word of God to be the only authority in all matters and assert that no doctrine can be true or essential, if it does not find a place in this Word.

About God

There is one God, who has revealed Himself as Father; through His Son, in redemption; and as the Holy Spirit, by emanation. Jesus Christ is God manifested in flesh. He is both God and man. (See Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:4-6; Colossians 2:9; I Timothy 3:16.)

About The Baptism of The Holy Ghost

We believe that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is an experience subsequent to conversion and sanctification and that tongue-speaking is the initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Ghost with the manifestations of the fruit of the spirit and gifts of the spirit (Galatians 5:22-23; Acts 10:46, 19:1-6; 1st Corinthinans 12). We believe that we are not baptized with the Holy Ghost in order to be saved (Acts 19:1-6; John 3:5). When one receives a baptismal Holy Ghost experience, they will be filled with the power, gifts, and fruit of the Holy Spirit. To be filled with the Spirit

means to be Spirit lead as expressed by Paul in Ephesians 5:18-19. Since the charismatic demonstrations were necessary to help the early church to be successful in implementing the command of Christ, we therefore, believe that a Holy Ghost experience is beneficial for all mankind today.

About Mankind

We believe that man was created holy by God, composed of body, soul, and spirit. We believe that man, by nature, is sinful and unholy. Being born in sin, he needs to be born again, sanctified and cleansed from all sins by the blood of Jesus. We believe that man is saved by confessing and forsaking his sins, and believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, and that having become a child of God, by being born again and adopted into the family of God, he may, and should, claim the inheritance of the sons of God, namely the baptism of the Holy Ghost.**About Sin**

Sin, the Bible teaches, began in the angelic world (Ezekiel 28:11-19; Isaiah 14:12-20), and is transmitted into the blood of the human race through disobedience and deception motivated by unbelief (I Timothy 2:14). Adam's sin, committed by eating of the forbidden fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, carried with it permanent pollution or depraved human nature to all his descendants. This is called "original sin."

Sin can now be defined as a volitional transgression against God and a lack of conformity to the will of God. We, therefore, conclude that man by nature, is sinful and that he has fallen from a glorious and righteous state from which he was created, and has become unrighteous and unholy. Man, therefore, must be restored to his state of holiness from which he has fallen by being born again (St. John 3:7).

About Repentance

Man was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression he fell into sin. His only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ. Repentance is a commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ. Through repentance we individually receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation. (Genesis 1:26-31, 3:17; Acts 2:38, 3:19; Romans 5:12-21)

About Salvation

Salvation deals with the application of the work of redemption to the sinner with his restoration to divine favor and communion with God. This redemptive operation of the Holy Ghost upon sinners is brought about by repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ which brings conversion, faith, justification regeneration, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Repentance is the work of God, which results in a change of mind in respect to man's relationship to God. (St. Matthew 3:1-2, 4:17; Acts 20:21). Faith is a certain conviction wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, as to the truth of the Gospel and a heart trust in the promises of God in Christ (Romans 1:17, 3:28; St. Matthew 9:22; Acts 26:18). Conversion is that act of God whereby He causes the regenerated sinner, in his conscious life, to turn to Him in repentance and faith (II Kings 5:15; II Chronicles 33:12-13; St. Luke 19:8, 9; Acts 8:30). Regeneration is that act of God by which the principle of the new life is implanted in man, and the governing disposition of soul is made holy and the first holy exercise of this new disposition is secured. Sanctification is that gracious and continuous operation of the Holy Ghost, by which He delivers the justified sinner from the pollution of sin, renews his whole nature in the image of God and enables him to perform good works (Romans 6:4;5:6; Colossians 2:12; 3:1).

About The Church

The Church forms a spiritual unity of which Christ is the divine head. It is animated by one Spirit, the Spirit of Christ. It professes one faith, shares one hope, and serves one King,. It is the citadel of the truth and God's agency for communicating to believers all spiritual blessings. The Church then is the object of our faith rather than of knowledge. The word "CHURCH" or "EKKLESIA" was first applied to the Christian society by Jesus Christ in St. Matthew 16:18, the occasion being that of his benediction of Peter at Caesarea Phillippi.

About Baptism

Baptism is a symbolic act to publicly profess one's salvation. God commands it, but our salvation is not reliant upon it. We practice full-immersion baptism, symbolizing the process of death and resurrection that Jesus went through for us. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38)

About Communion

Communion (The Lord's Supper) is a unique time when the elements of bread and juice express, in a spiritual way, the body and blood of Christ. Communion is taken by believers in remembrance of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 8:36-38, 10:47-48; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25)

About The Five-Fold Ministry

The five-fold ministry positions of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers are gifts given to each local church and the universal church. These gifts are for the equipping of believers to spread the gospel of Christ. We believe both men and women are sovereignly chosen by God for these ministry positions. (Ephesians 4:8-13; 1 Corinthians 12:4-30, 14:29-31; Galatians 3:26-29; Philippians 4:3; Romans 16:1-7)

About Health and Prosperity

We believe that, as part of Christ's work of salvation, it is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy, and successful in all areas of life:

1. Spiritual (John 3:3, 11; Romans 10:9-10, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)
2. Mental & Emotional (Isaiah 26:3; 2 Timothy 1:7; Romans 12:2)
3. Physical (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24)
4. Financial (Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Malachi 3:10)

About The Second Coming

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish his authority on earth. This will occur at a time undisclosed

by scripture. So, we live everyday in expectation of Christ's return. (Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7) About Eternity Man was created to exist forever. He will exist either eternally separated from God by sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is Heaven.

Heaven and Hell are places of eternal existence. (Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34, 41; Mark 9:43-48; John 3:16, 36; Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27, 11:16; 1 John 2:25; 5:11-13; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8)