



Summary of Output from Vision Workshop – October 1, 2023

Facilitated by Mark Ellwood, Volunteer Consultant with Management Advisory Service (MAS)

GOALS - DRAFT TARGETS

Varied Worship Experience / Vibrant Music for all Ages

- Add interactive elements to select services (interpretive dance, skits, sermon bingo, visual arts).
- Add an evening worship time.
- Include youth choir/ bank in adult choir - especially blended services.
- Attract more teens – young adults to engage in worship and midweek groups.

Community Resource / Personal Caring & Emotional Support

- Increase congregational support by hiring staff nurse who is accessible at all times.
- Congregation nurse on staff accessible in building at all times
- Intentional health and wellness support provided by the church for the community.
- Help link support providers with those in need.

Optimize our Physical Space

- Quantify number of individuals using buildings each month, communicate to congregation impact of Christian value of sharing with neighbors.
- Increase community tenancies / rentals to strengthen their outreach and ours.
- Real estate plan for Port Credit and Clarkson, to align with the three pillars of the church by 2028.
- Increase everyday accessibility at both campuses including parking (3 mentions).
- Reduce costs of physical space by 20%.

Strong Community Brand

- Increase number of members involved in church mission.
- 30% more community involved events.
- Increase number of collaborations and involvement with the community.

- Increase number of people attending events and the associated giving.
- Data analysis of the social media presently utilized to determine trends of engagement.
- When Christ First members join community activities, they are confident to speak about faith, faith formation, discipleship to increase confidence.

STRATEGIES

Overall: Ensure the right governing model to support community collaboration initiatives.

Increase Social Media Presence

- Boost social media engagement (2 mentions)
- Articulate and promote our value proposition and mission.
- Develop state of the art, interactive website.
- Increase through social media recruitment efforts for music.
- Increase announcements about mission in Sunday service – live/ video, eblast.

Innovative Worship

- Create alternative worship service to meet changing needs (e.g., midweek, evening service).
- Explore creative worship alternatives.
- Incorporate creative elements in worship.
- Only one Sunday service
- Restructure Sunday worship times to free up resources for alternative worship times.
- Create inter-faith music and worship programs.

Expand Creative Community Events

- Host a community event every fall and spring (fun and free, movie night, bouncy castle)
- Friday night regular supper – family night / community dinner
- Invite guest speakers to share with the community about social topics.
- Create spiritual nurture opportunities outside of Sunday worship.
- Increase community awareness of our programs for kids, with the goal of attracting families.

Develop an Accessibility Plan

- Develop an accessibility plan.
- Hire a professional accessibility consultant.
- Make non-accessible areas accessible.

- Harmonize assets with needs of community and congregation as we define church in 21st century – within 2 years.
- Build a new facility to replace existing buildings.

Community Collaboration

- Become a resource for youth mission and activity groups.
- Support initiatives directed at local housing insecurity.
- Develop plans to increase volunteerism or paid personnel if necessary.
- Collaboration and partnership development