

2020
VISION
ending relational poverty

PAOLI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Provoking Question...

What type of church are we going to be?

Called by God, compelled by the love of Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit...

We end relational poverty by inviting everyone to know and experience the love of Jesus and by building authentic relationships with one another.

This is the vision for Paoli Presbyterian Church. Many people in the world today are deceived into thinking that being busy around other people or via technology devices, is experiencing true relationship. Our desire is to bring a deeper experience to the meaning of a relationship and to invite others to know the love of Jesus.

“VISION 2020” describes the way our church can live into this mission and is the result of a prayerful year of work among Elders, staff and leaders of the church.

In order for us to fully embrace our vision, we must make a commitment regarding the type of church we aspire to be and to picture what we will look like, and how we will serve others in the future. Vision 2020 builds upon the strength and generosity of our church who has lovingly served others through programs, outreach and worship. Our heritage is based on doing good for others in service to God. Our vision presents the opportunity to build upon our past and to embark on a fresh approach to serving and doing in our community and beyond. We move toward a new vision where our relationship with God leads us to pursue faith-filled personal relationships with others, helping them to grow spiritually and inviting them to know the love of Christ and to participate in our community of faith.



Doing Church "We Do Good Things "

- The church is one with wonderful loving people who give of their time and talents to serve others through programs, events, funding, education and other activities, where the focus is on deeds and transactions. The success is measured by the programs, funds and event participation. We have long been known as a loving and giving church who is ready to help others.

Relational Church "Build Faith-Filled Relationships "

- The relational church calls the servants of Christ to know each person and their story. Through cultivating lasting relationships and sharing the love and saving grace of Christ, every person is known and loved. They will be lifted up to experience meaningful relationships with others and discover a loving relationship with Jesus.
- The community of believers joins together in large and small places to grow in relationship with God and each other, to understand the teachings of Jesus and to reach out to others to experience His love.

To live into our mission and vision statement and the potential that it holds, we believe that each of us has the power to think and to act in a new way, to reach out to more people and to be bold and generous followers of Christ in our church and in our daily lives. This transformed approach will invite others to know Christ, experience His love and grace and build a meaningful relationship with Him.

We invite each person who is a part of Paoli Presbyterian Church to join in the exciting opportunity of VISION 2020 as we seek to end relational poverty and bring healing, understanding, and a sense of community through the love and promise of Jesus Christ.

What does VISION 2020 look like?

A description of our Vision.

In today's world many forces work against the ability to build meaningful relationships and to be connected with God. Technology devices, distance among families, too much time spent at work, school, sports, video games and other distractions impede the chance to spend time building and nurturing authentic faith-filled relationships. People are surrounded by activity – but are still lonely, empty and experience relational poverty of not being truly known and loved. **We envision Paoli Presbyterian Church as a church that reaches out to the community and the world to build faith-filled relationships to end the emptiness of relational poverty.** God is calling all of us at PPC to join in relationship with Him and with others to experience the awesome power and presence of His love.

[Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known](#) has been our Mission and remains so as we picture our new future. **VISION 2020 challenges us to engage in new ways of thinking, feeling and behaving as we pursue the “knowing” experience of Christ and our desire to end relational poverty.** Our [Vision Statement](#) sets our course towards a newly inspired future serving God in and among our church and community.

2020 VISION

Called by God, compelled by the love of Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit...

We end relational poverty by inviting everyone to know and experience the love of Jesus and by building authentic relationships with one another.

A new experience awaits Paoli Presbyterian Church with Vision 2020. The strategies set PPC on the path to focus on ending relational poverty by building relationships within the congregation, as well as beyond our walls to our community. **Our vision will be one where people of all generations, interests, backgrounds and faith journeys come together to experience meaningful relationships.** Through these relationships each individual will grow in their faith in Jesus Christ and know God's love. We will know each other better as we share small group experiences, enjoy praise-filled worship services and participate in educational programs and studies that feed our spirits with God's Word.

Ending relational poverty in our church and beyond begins with knowing and understanding the person, bridging the divides and filling the needs on both personal and spiritual levels. **God invites us into relationship with Him, where we are known and loved. The greatest gift we can do for others is to seek to authentically know each other and to share the invitation to know the love of Jesus Christ.**

What are our guiding principles? Our Mission, Vision and Values

Our Mission

Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known

Vision

***Called by God, compelled by the love of Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit...
We end relational poverty by inviting everyone to know and experience
the love of Jesus and by building authentic relationships with one
another.***

Core Values

Our Core Values are the foundation of what identifies us as Paoli Presbyterian Church. The Values describe our identity and let others know who we are and what is important to us.

Because Jesus is Lord, we commit ourselves to living out these core values:

Gather to glorify God

Our reason for existence, as individuals and as a community, is to give glory to God and to find joy in His presence. In gathered worship, we eagerly experience God through passionate Biblical preaching, awe-inspiring music, and vulnerable prayer.

- Hebrews 10:25; Matthew 6:9-15; Psalm 150

Every person known and loved

Just as God passionately pursues us in love, we too pursue one another. Whether calling PPC home for generations or are walking in the doors for the first time, we want you to experience being authentically known and deeply loved.

- John 13:34-35

When young people thrive, everyone thrives

We are committed to disciple the next generation. We know that when children, youth, and young adults learn to know God, have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and engage in the broader life of the church, the rest of the body will thrive.

- 1 Timothy 4:12-13; Matthew 19:14

Joining Jesus - anywhere, anytime, anyhow

Recognizing that Jesus is at work in the world, we will follow Him. With all that we are and all that we have we live out the Gospel, in our words and our actions, offering Christ's compassion with people near and far.

- Amos 5:24; Micah 6:8; Matthew 28:19

Shaping the future on the foundation of our faithful past

With love and respect for those who laid the foundation of our church before us, we prayerfully and joyfully move into the future that God has planned for us.

- Romans 15:4-6

How do we achieve our Vision?

We **KNOW**, **LOVE** and **INVITE**

KNOW God and each other personally and spiritually

What does this mean? As a relational church we know people not only by name, but by asking about and listening to their story, by understanding their need and how to respond.

Why is it important? We see people living disconnected from others, living in relational poverty of not knowing that they are loved by God and others. We can offer the fullness of having meaningful relationships and allowing God into our hearts.

What does it look like? We do this in our daily lives and as we gather together to worship, pray, learn, encourage and celebrate God's work among us.

LOVE one another as Christ loves you

What does this mean? Truly love our neighbors as ourselves--near and far.

Why is it important? In a world where relational poverty exists, where individuals do not feel loved--God loves us and we are directed to love others—"even the least of these".

What does it look like? Love is patient, love is kind. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. (1 Corinthians: 4,) We do this in our daily lives through the love and grace of Jesus and inspiration of the Holy Spirit living in us and through us.

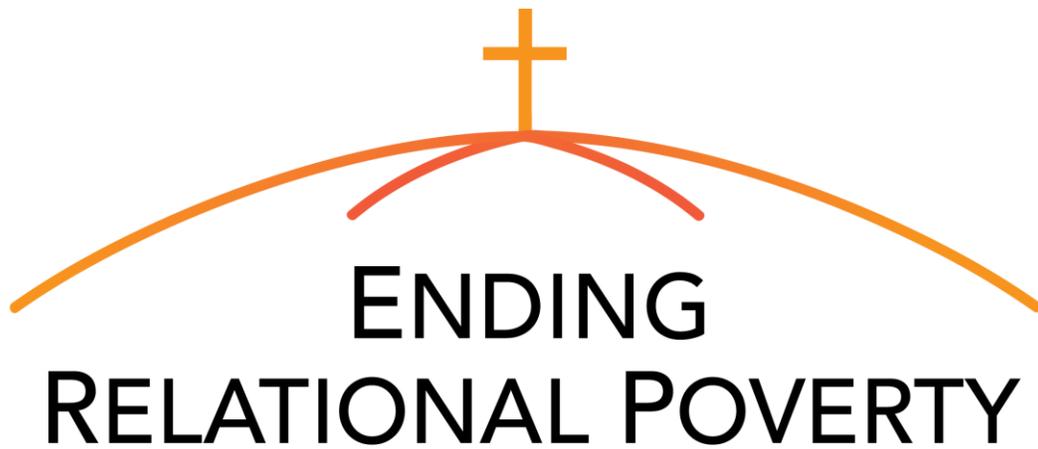
INVITE others to Come and See

What does this mean? Reach out to meet and know people and invite them to get to know us better, know God and/or participate in fellowship, education, worship or service and see God through our lives.

Why is it important? Jesus invites us to be in relation with him: Come unto me, come and see and follow me.

What does it look like? In our daily lives we create opportunities to share our faith story in big and small ways, to encourage and invite others to grow closer to God. We say... "you are welcome here, come with me to a service..., to fellowship..., to volunteer with helping others...".

2020
VISION



PAOLI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

How will we make VISION 2020 happen?

Five Key Strategic Initiatives

Session, in conjunction with Program Staff, identified 5 key strategic areas to channel our focus over the next several years. The strategies and their goals will set the direction for planning, actions and staffing in the years ahead. We will not do everything at one time, but will set the course over the next 3 years to accomplish our Goals to fulfill our Mission and achieve our Vision.

- ★ **Connect The Generations**
- ★ **Build Community Through Personal And Intentional Relationships**
- ★ **Be Passionate About Energizing Our Children, Youth And Families**
- ★ **Live The Gospel In Both Word And Action**
- ★ **Catalyze Young Adults To Expand Our Ministry Of Worship, Discipleship And Mission**

Connect the Generations

We embrace people in all ages and stages of life and seek to build meaningful connections between the generations. We create opportunities for the oldest to the youngest to come together and share experiences, knowledge, and faith, to strengthen us as a community of believers.

Goal 1: Shift the culture of PPC to emphasize the importance of intergenerational relationships.

Goal 2: Create 3-5 events annually that encourage intergenerational relationships.

Build Community Through Personal And Intentional Relationships

A stronger community of faith will be built both within the congregation as well as among our neighbors, friends and the community at large.

- *Small group experiences are at the cornerstone of building meaningful relationships that allow for sharing personal joys, concerns, hopes, fears and faith.*
- *As we seek to know others, we will invite and welcome them to be a part of our faith community and experience firsthand the love of Christ.*

Goal 1: Be a presence in the local community by leading 2-3 activities annually at locations beyond the walls of PPC.

Goal 2: Increase the number of small group experiences so that at least 75% of PPC attendees are involved in at least one small group, and there is 10% growth in non-member participation by September 2019.

Be Passionate About Energizing Our Children, Youth And Families

Our future depends upon children, youth and young families being actively engaged in our church. We will dedicate significant energy, resources and personnel to create exciting new programs, education and church experiences for these groups.

Goal 1: Equip staff and volunteers and align budget to support growth of children and youth programming

Goal 2: Create exciting and engaging programs that kids just won't miss.

Goal 3: Create 2-3 recurring experiences annually that cultivate relationships between the parents of children and youth.

Goal 4: Increase presence, engagement and participation of children and youth in worship and outreach.

Live The Gospel In Both Word And Action

We walk with others in relationship and share the Gospel as Jesus taught us to do. We create and invest in additional opportunities and programs for the congregation to experience the giving and receiving power of Christ.

Goal 1: Develop evangelism programs to train members how to share their faith. Measured by hosting two training/development programs annually.

Goal 2: Establish criteria and processes for mission investment and participation by January 2018.

Goal 3: Increase the number of the PPC participants involved in local/global mission experiences.

Catalyze Young Adults To Expand Our Ministry Of Worship, Discipleship And Mission

Young adults are seeking a different church experience, requiring new thinking and behaviors. The Zoe Project team is commissioned to bring forward ideas and initiatives that will energize and catalyze our community of young adults.

Goal 1: Equip staff and volunteers and align budget to support growth of young adults programming.

Goal 2: Commission and support "Zoe Fellows" as they envision and launch a new outreach to young adults in our local community by 2020.

Goal 3: Design and implement leadership development programs for young adult ministry, producing two leaders per year.

Goal 4: Equip and support young adults as they develop new mission partnerships.