

**Heritage Presbyterian Church
Momentum Plan
2020-2023**

Vision/Mission Statement

*Love Grows Here
Loving through Christ; Becoming Disciples; Serving All*

Core Values

Worship ❖ Leadership ❖ Healthy Change ❖ Diversity ❖ Opportunities

Guiding Principles

These guiding principles remind us to let the Triune God lead us into the future.

In order to “raise our sails,” we will seek to be a congregation who:

1) Lives by prayer

We believe God has chosen prayer as the major means for the Holy Spirit to flow through the world. Prayer gives the spirit a “place and space” to work in our lives. We commit to praying persistently, fervently, and hopefully.

2) Interacts with scripture as a real/living thing

We believe Scripture opens up creative space for God to speak and mold lives. This is how God speaks to us, and is the rudder for our sailing.

3) Becomes a place of transformation

We believe that living close to Jesus Christ changes us and guides us to think and rethink about our relationships with God, ourselves, others, and the world. After experiencing Christ, we can't help but be the light to the world around us. (also, see Romans 12)

4) Lives by the power of the Spirit

We believe that we are called to seek deeper and more intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit, who continues to breath into our lives. We hope to hold our plans gently, so that there is room for the Spirit to move, and recognize that this plan is meant to have some fluidity as we engage in continual discernment and adjust our sails accordingly.

Momentum Ideas Referred to Committees

- 1) Facilities** – Serving All: Marietta Pres Church (Korean Congregation) – should our relationship with them be landlord/tenant, or mission partnership? Need to revise commitment for 2020, and discern future relationship with their leaders.
- 2) Worship** – Becoming Disciples: Worship – clarify purpose of 2 services while affirming current schedule; consider how to better have conversations surrounding worship that foster community rather than lead to division.
- 3) Mission** – Services Gap Assessment – Resource list for senior programs in Cherokee and Cobb Counties – volunteer leadership

2020 – Building the Foundation

1) Love Grows Here: Prayer Team

Team Leaders: Volunteers needed (speak with Rev. Elizabeth Milford)

We will pray for discernment with respect to our “sailing opportunities” and for the future of our congregation. We hope to offer multiple connecting points for the congregation, including a set day and time at the church in person as well as virtual ways of connecting. *Scripture References: Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6), Lenten Sermon Series on Prayer*

2) Loving through Christ: Mission 501(c)3 Discernment for Food Ministry

Team Leaders: Andrea Dean, Billie Sutter

We will discern if God is calling us to launch our food ministry into a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and further discern which is the appropriate way to do this: a separate entity, or a merger with another organization. We sense that our food ministries have grown beyond what our congregation can support alone, and are aware of the many other partners in the community that work with us to make this mission possible. The current structure of the food pantry as a ministry of the church limits us on the grants and external supports we can receive because we are a religious institution. With additional partners and funding, we would be able to expand how we serve the community. *Scripture References: Feeding the 5000 (Matthew 14, Mark 6, Luke 9, John 6), Let your light shine (Matthew 5:14-16), Jesus walking on water (Matthew 14, Mark 6, John 6), Do to the least of these (Matthew 25)*

3) Becoming Disciples: Small Groups

Team Leaders: David and Stephenie Justice

We will engage in transformational ministry through deepened relationships in small group experiences where everyone can participate. We will begin by establishing a core group of leaders who can then become facilitators. These leaders will also discern the shape of this ministry, including the purpose of these groups (study, mission, hobbies, etc), what defines a small group, and the ways we can implement this program in creative ways utilizing all the resources available to us. *Scripture References: Mission of the 70 (Luke 10), Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8), Life among the believers (Acts 2)*

4) Serving All: Endowment

Team Leaders: Jackalie Blue, Kees DeVente

We will explore establishing an endowment as a long-term way to support the church with the eventual possibility of creating an income stream for sustainment of the church, investment in mission, or support of designated activities. Our goal initially is simply to set-up the endowment and establish a group of initial participants. This team will work to outline the parameters of the endowment, clarify staff responsibilities and leadership, and provide communication and promotional materials. *Scripture References: Treasures on earth (Matthew 6)*

2021

1) **Serving All: Earned Income**

We will pursue additional ways of maximizing the gift of our ample facilities in order to generate income to support the ministries of our congregation. This team will discern how we set-up our guidelines and approach this theologically so that this becomes an embodiment of our mission and vision statement. *Scripture References: Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25), Jesus turning over tables (Matthew 21, Mark 11, Luke 19)*

2) **Loving Through Christ: Mission: Senior Resource Center**

We will investigate how our congregation can help educate, inform, and connect seniors to available services in our areas. This team will help assess local resources and work with community agencies to provide opportunities for sharing. *Scripture references: "Where you go, I go" (Ruth 1), Care for widows and orphans (Deuteronomy 14 and throughout scripture), Caring for the least of these (Matthew 25)*

2022

1) **Becoming Disciples: Leadership**

We will review the leadership model for both paid staff and lay leaders in our congregation, guided by the energies surrounding this momentum plan and other congregational ministries. We will develop and review a plan for facilities maintenance and management. *Scripture References: Jesus calls the disciples (Mark 6, Matthew 10, Luke 9); Mission of the 70 (Luke 10)*

2) **Loving Through Christ & Becoming Disciples: Matthew 25 PC(USA) Initiative**

We will discern becoming a "Matthew 25 congregation" through the initiative began by the PC(USA), which invites congregation to commit to one or more of the following focus areas: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. Our discernment will include smaller studies and potential small group opportunities and sermon series. We will also look for other churches engaged in this initiative (i.e. Light of Hope) to learn from their experiences. We wonder if many of our other "sailing opportunities" in this momentum plan is building into this. *Scripture Reference: Matthew 25*

Ripples (2023 and beyond)

Ripples are additional initiatives or areas to explore that we sense are on the horizon, reflecting where the Holy Spirit's winds might be blowing next.

- 1) Serving All: Marietta Presbyterian Church – what is our relationship?
- 2) Senior Center – discernment of HPC as providing services to the community
- 3) Leadership – staffing plan
- 4) Mission – 501(c)3 discernment relating to Clothing Closet and Santa's Caravan
 - a. This may be a possible next step after our food ministry discernment.

