

New Life Presbyterian Church

Ministry Plan

Vision: (What we want to see.)

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” – Jesus, in Matthew 22:37-40.

To See York and Beyond Embrace God’s Beauty and Extend God’s Love.

Explanation: We derive our vision from the Word of God. What do we want to see? The greatest commandment is to love God. The second is to love your neighbor. **NLPC’s vision is a re-statement of these two commands.** What we desire is to see God loved, to see Him embraced in and for every facet of His beauty. Furthermore, we desire to see our neighbor loved. The only way to love our neighbor truly is to love after the pattern of God’s love. Thus, we desire to see God’s love extended. Where do we desire to do this? Starting where God has placed us and expanding outward from there, we desire to see, both in ourselves and others, God loved and neighbor loved. Thus, at NLPC we desire “to see York and beyond embrace God’s beauty and extend God’s love.”

Mission: (What we need to do.)

New Life Presbyterian Church exists to receive the grace of God, to give the glory to God, and to follow the Word of God.

Explanation: The mission tells us what must do in order to accomplish our vision: Receive His Grace; Give the Glory; Follow the Word. What does this mean? First, we must receive the grace of God, freely offered in Jesus Christ. The whole of the Christian life is dependent upon the grace of God. Second, we must give God all glory. We seek to worship God in every sphere of life. Third, we must follow the Word. To be a disciple is to walk after Jesus, following his pattern of life and obeying His every command in all of life. Here is an expression of our mission in motto form: ***New lives (The Word followed), by the grace of God (grace received), for the glory of God (glory given).***

Core Values: (Why we have this vision and mission)

- **His Voice:** While the one true God speaks indirectly through all of creation, that God speaks directly in the revealed Word of God, the Christian Bible, which is the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Therefore, while we may learn truth from creation, we receive God's revealed truth and seek to order the entirety of our lives by its teachings, commands, and promises. [*Gen. 1-2; Ex. 34:6-7; Deut. 6:4; 29:29; Ps. 19; 24:1-2; 119; Isa. 45:5,21-22; Mt. 28:19-20; Jn. 1:1-14; 14:15, 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 1:1-4; 2 Pet. 1:19-21*]
- **His Plan:** Because God is love and in love did not desire to condemn all humanity for sin, God is on a mission to save, gathering and purifying His people from among all nations as he makes all things new. Therefore, we conform to His plan, being disciples and making disciples, rather than conforming to any culture's history, values, beliefs, or practices. [*Gen. 3:15; 12:1-3; Ex. 1-20; Ps. 47; 67; 117; Jer. 31:31-34, Mt. 28:16-20, Lk 9:23-24; Jn. 3:16; Rom. 1-11; 1:5; 16:26; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:11-22; 1 Pet. 1:14:-17; 2 Pet. 3:10-13; 1 Jn. 4:7-8; Rev. 7:9-12; 21:5; 22:1-5*]
- **His Grace:** The good news for sinners is that Jesus saves, by grace. Therefore, through faith we believe in Christ and we grow in Christ, participating both individually and corporately in the means of grace. [*Gen. 3:15, Ex. 12, Isa. 53, Mt. 1:21, Mt. 5:3, Lk. 19:10, John 20:30-31, Acts 4:12, Rom 3:21-26, 2 Cor. 5:21, Eph. 2:8-9, Eph. 6:18-20, Col. 3:16, 1 Thess. 5:17, Heb. 8-10, 1 Pet. 1:18-21, Rev. 5:5-14*]
- **His Power:** God alone has the power to save and to sustain His people. Therefore, we acknowledge our human weakness and sin, and we boast in the power of Christ, depending on the strength that God supplies through His Holy Spirit. [*Neh. 8:10; Ps. 51; Jer. 9:23-24; Jon. 2:9; Zech. 4:6; Jn. 15:1-11; Acts 1:8; 4:31; Rom. 6-8; 1 Cor. 1:18-31; 2 Cor. 12:9-10; Gal. 5:16-24; 6:14, Eph. 5:18; 1 Pet. 4:11*]
- **His People:** In Christ, the diverse members of Christ's body share a fundamental unity. Therefore, in the midst of both unity and diversity, we must love one another in word and deed, without partiality. [*Rom. 6; 9-11; 1 Cor. 12:12-30; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 1:8-10; 2:17-21; 4-6, Col. 3:11-17; 1 Jn. 1-5; Jas. 2*]
- **His Gifts:** We acknowledge creation is a gift, we rejoice that redemption is a gift, and we recognize that God has gifted all of His people with unique abilities. Therefore, following His plan takes place as the entire church grows in gratitude and is both equipped and empowered to serve together. [*Lev. 25:23; Ps. 115:15; 136; John 3:16; Rom. 12:3-13; 13:8; 1 Cor. 4:7; 12:12-27; Gal. 5:6; Eph. 2:8-10; 4:7; 1 Thess. 5:18; 1 Pet. 4:10*]
- **His Timing:** God orders every detail of life according to His timing. Therefore, whether waiting for God to intervene in the details of our lives now or for the final return of our Lord, we trust in His ways. [*Ex. 14:13; Job 38-42; Ps. 27:14; 31:14-15; 46; 139; Prov. 3:5-6; Isa. 46:8-11; 55:10-11; Dan. 4:34-35; 1 Cor. 15:50-58; 2 Cor. 1:3-11; 2 Tim. 3:12; 4:17-18; 1 Pet. 5:6-11; 2 Pet. 3:8-9; Rev. 22:16-21*]

Explanation: The Core Values are our theological commitments, which are the foundation of, the content behind, and the motivation for our mission and vision.

Ministry Areas: (Where we will focus our efforts in order to advance the mission)

- **Worship:**
 - Stressing that all of life is worship service
 - Specific services of worship (contextually aware, confessionally driven, communally focused)
- **Prayer: Corporate times of prayer & Individual lives of prayer**
- **Outreach:**
 - Teaching the community how to individually engage in outreach where we live, work, and play
 - Outreach events as a community
- **Missions: Local, Regional, National, International**
- **Congregational Care and Fellowship:**
 - Age specific: children, youth, college/young adult, singles, men's, women's, retiree
 - General: shepherding care from the elders; community support and fellowship from all and toward all
 - Specific: counseling
- **Equipping/Spiritual Formation:**
 - Christian Education, adult and children
 - Faith and work
 - Faith and culture (politics, art, pop culture, etc.)
 - Intentional Discipleship
 - Multiplying servant leadership
- **Administration/Organization**
 - Policies that protect/care for the entire congregation.
 - Clear organizational structure and processes.
 - Pathways for congregational involvement.
- **Kingdom connections**
 - Presbytery/General Assembly
 - Area churches and Christian ministries
- **Diaconate**
 - Building and grounds, cared for in keeping with the mission
 - Compassionate care, both towards members of New Life and towards those outside New Life (Mercy Team assisting the deacons)
- **Session- oversight/accountability of all of the above**

Explanation: The ministry areas give strategic focus to NLPC as an institution, defining current and future areas that need developing and flourishing in order to accomplish the mission.

Goals for developing and maintaining the Ministry Areas:

Long Term Goals: TBD. Please Pray!

Short Term Goals (2017 Focus):

- Vision Development and Initial Implementation
 - Conduct two or more “listening sessions,” for dialogue between the congregation and the session regarding mission and vision (Spring 2017).
 - Session finalize mission and vision, giving regard for congregational feedback.
 - Preaching series of mission, vision, and core values.
 - Develop a congregation-wide self-assessment of NLPC’s strengths/weaknesses. The purpose of this is for specific assessment of our ministry areas, with an eye to giving thanks to God for where we are healthy and prayerfully beginning to develop what is inadequate.
- Develop the “equipping” ministry area, with special focus on intentional discipleship
- Under “congregational care,” develop the Children’s and Youth Ministries
- Initiate an Outreach Team
- Initiate a Missions Team