

In 2005, the Session of First Presbyterian Church approved the following mission statement:

***We are a community of Christians  
Celebrating the life, death  
and resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
Gathering in God's grace,  
To worship and serve our Lord!***

In 2013, building on that mission, the session organized itself into three clusters of ministry teams:

- **GROW** (Worship & Music, Spiritual Growth, Children and Youth)
- **SERVE** (Missions, Discipleship, Membership Care and Membership Outreach)
- **EQUIP** (Personnel, Buildings & Grounds, Endowment, Budget).

Each of these clusters, through careful discernment and with God's help, created the enclosed 2014 Vision Statement, along with a corresponding budget. This vision was unanimously and enthusiastically approved by the session at its August meeting.

As you'll see, your church leadership has created a bold plan of ministry to continue our mission of celebrating, gathering, and worshipping. Join us in supporting God's vision for our church!

*(A copy of the complete line item budget is readily available for anyone who wishes to have it – simply pick one up from the table outside the upstairs kitchen or contact Lynn Rigney at the church office - 786.2803 or [lirigney@fpcma.com](mailto:lirigney@fpcma.com)).*

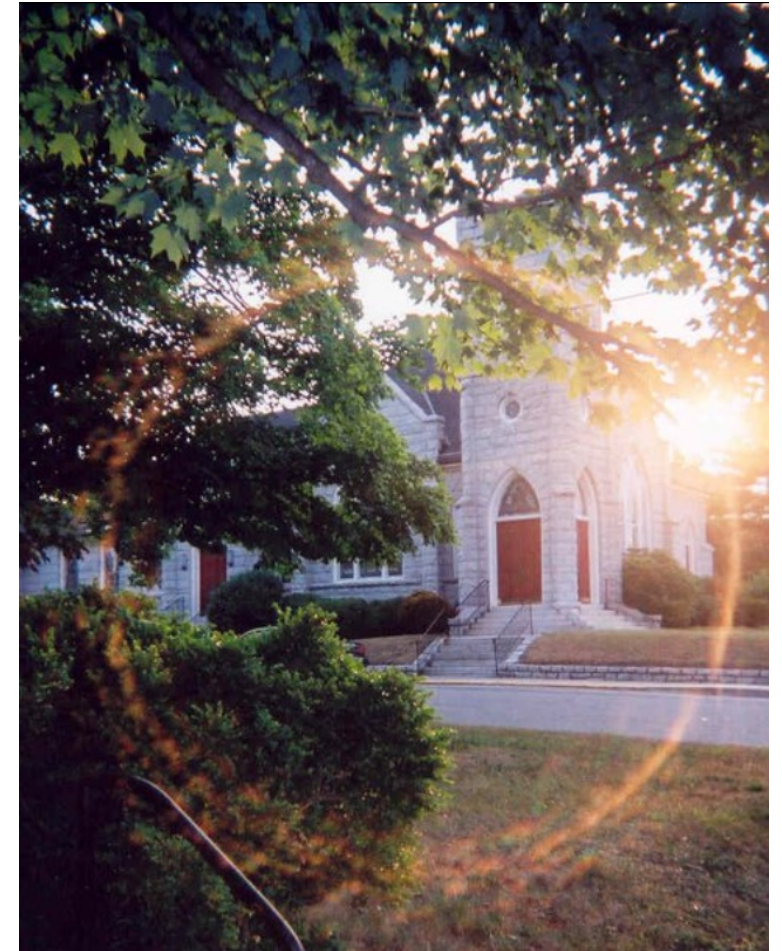
*“Behold, I am doing a new thing;  
now it springs forth,  
do you not perceive it?”  
Isaiah 43:19*

*“For surely I know the plans I have for  
you, says the Lord, plans for your  
welfare and not for harm,  
to give you a future with hope.”  
Jeremiah 29:11*

*“Where there is no vision,  
the people perish.”  
Proverbs 29:18*

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## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT 2014**



Approved by the Session, August 2013

## GROW

We believe in rooting people in the story of the Christian faith - a story that fosters active engagement and growth in people's relationship with Jesus and the world. We believe in telling the story in a way that cultivates community, nurtures both individual and communal faith experiences, and transforms us for witness and effective discipleship. We do this through: effective Christian nurture/growth ministry for all ages, music ministry in worship and in church life, intentional spiritual growth practices, and intergenerational education and fellowship for all of God's children.

With your blessing and support, and with God's help, here is GROW's vision for 2014:

- *We will foster spiritual growth in the congregation through the following: a "Read The Bible In A Year" initiative, a Lenten Bible study on the Book of Confessions, ongoing study opportunities, and working with the SERVE cluster to create a vibrant small group ministry.*
- *Working with the EQUIP cluster, we will create a part-time "Music Coordinator" staff position to cultivate and grow our church's music ministry by fostering congregational ownership in the ministry and tapping into the rich, diverse gifts of our church, bringing them on board during the first half of the year.*
- *We will strengthen the ties between our older adults and the church's children with specific gatherings to bring both together for fellowship.*
- *We will begin a "coffee hour" ministry for each of our middle school and senior high ages, to build on the already strong foundation of our Beacons youth ministry.*
- *We will continue growing our children's ministry to include opportunities for nurture and mission.*
- *We will enhance our chancel choir through increased participation and resources.*

**TOTAL BUDGET: \$94,000**

(Total includes a percentage of staff salaries and various budgetary line items)

## SERVE

We believe in putting our Christian faith into action - not being just believers in Jesus, but followers of Jesus. We believe in a faith that "reaches out" both within our church and outside its walls, seeking to enlarge the embrace of Christian love and practice. We do this through: opportunities for mission and service in the spirit of Christ; welcoming all into the community of faith; identifying needs in the church and community, and identifying and fostering the many gifts and resources of our church members.

With your blessing and support, and with God's help, here is SERVE's vision for 2014:

- *We will begin a Greeting Ministry on Sunday mornings to more effectively welcome all to worship.*
- *We will continue to grow our Sandwich Saturday ministry, involving other churches and community groups and possibly adding a second Saturday each month.*
- *We will actively seek to serve both our own membership and the immediate community in new outreach opportunities, while maintaining our current mission initiatives.*
- *We will foster a year-long Discipleship ministry that enables everyone to fully use their time, talents and treasure for the furthering of God's mission.*
- *Working with the GROW cluster and the Spiritual Growth Ministry team, we will work to create a vibrant small group ministry in our congregation.*
- *We will implement a new Prayer Circle Ministry to regularly pray for our church's worship, members, and mission.*

**TOTAL BUDGET: \$83,000**

(Total includes a percentage of staff salaries and various budgetary line items)

## EQUIP

We believe in supporting and facilitating the foundation of God's church, providing stability and resources for its mission and the furthering of God's kingdom. As Nehemiah rebuilt Jerusalem's walls, we respond to the church's mission by sustaining the church's infrastructure, while at the same time responding to and cultivating inevitable change. We do this by: maintaining the church's buildings and grounds; hiring, managing and compensating staff; building and operating a budget; and growing our endowment. Fiscal responsibility and the wise use of resources play a critical role.

With your blessing and support, and with God's help, here is EQUIP's vision for 2014:

- *We will build a balanced budget that includes adding a reserve fund for ongoing facility needs.*
- *Working with the GROW cluster, we will create a job description and budget line item for a part-time "Music Coordinator" position, and we will aim to bring that person on board in the first half of the year.*
- *We will provide a compensation increase for our hard-working staff.*
- *We will continue to properly maintain our grounds and facility.*
- *We will develop a comprehensive plan to encourage end-of-life giving to grow our Endowment.*
- *We will continue our commitment to being a "green church," lowering our carbon footprint and decreasing utility costs.*

**TOTAL BUDGET - \$87,000**

(Total includes a percentage of staff salaries and various budgetary line items)