

# ZION CHURCH 2020 Vision



## Our Vision

“To be a life giving movement of Christ followers committed to reproducing disciples, Life Groups and campuses sent to the Western, Pa. region and the world with the gospel of Jesus.”

At Zion, “it’s all about Jesus.” Everything we do is for His glory, because of His grace, for the sake of His kingdom. After spending more than 6 months in prayer, encouraging feedback from the church family, and spending time brainstorming in a variety of settings across all three campuses, the elder team came together to discern God’s direction for the next five years at Zion. What follows are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time bound goals, each tied to an element of our stated vision. These will serve to guide our priorities as a church family for the next five years. They are faith fueled, life stretching, and God honoring. They call for a commitment from everyone who calls Zion their church family. As you read through the 2020 Vision, ask yourself, “**what is my part in making this vision a reality over the next five years?**” Participation from the body will determine the effectiveness of the vision.

## We will focus on Reproducing Disciples

Jesus’ mission for His church is a crystal clear mission: “Go, make disciples.” His master plan for reaching the world must be our first priority. Discipleship starts in the home. Therefore, we will partner with families to help parents disciple the next generation effectively. Additionally, we will leverage substantial time and resources to help make disciples and move them through the “stages” of discipleship to become spiritual parents who will make disciples of others. Currently, Zion has 35 spiritual parents that are actively discipling others.

**Because “growing disciples grow disciples”, by 2020 we will have 100 spiritual parents actively discipling others through the stages of discipleship.**

## We will focus on Reproducing Life Groups

Jesus calls His followers to connect with one another in community. Life Groups are the primary strategy for the Zion family to experience biblical community by providing care, fellowship, opportunities to apply the Bible to everyday life, and live out the mission of God together. Currently, Zion has 12 active Life Groups.

**Because living out the “one another’s” happens best beyond Sundays, by 2020 we will have 19 Life Groups spread out across our three locations.**

## We will focus on Reproducing Campuses

Jesus promised to build His church. We are called to make disciples. As part of our vision as a multi site church, we are open to God’s call to go to new locations. Though we don’t have a plan in place for a fourth location, we will GO when God says GO.

**Because a fourth location would open doors for others to “Go” and for the gospel to be planted, by 2020 we will ask God to call a team of people, including a campus pastor, to serve as the core team for a new location.**



# We will focus on being Sent to Western, Pa

Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." (John 20:21). Jesus met the needs of people everywhere He went; physical, emotional, relational and spiritual. We believe that being "sent" means doing the same things Jesus did while He was on Earth. Serving others opens the door to sharing the gospel with them.

**Because serving others opens doors for "planting the gospel deep and wide," by 2020 each location will go to their community in the following ways:**

## Zion of Clarion County

- Continue to partner with campus ministries and missionaries to reach and disciple Clarion University students.
- Continue to partner with AAA Life Services to promote the sanctity of life.
- Partner with CYS, Bethany Christian Services and Grafted In of Mercer County to provide adoptive families in the region with a support system where they can find refreshment and resources.
- Expand our current food distribution by establishing a client choice option focused on reaching the working poor in our county.
- Develop and implement a strategy to help and invest in families living in the Woodland Estates Mobile Park.
- Partner with Mental Health Grace Alliance to start a ministry to support families touched by Mental Illness.

## Zion of Petroleum Valley

- Continue to focus on the Karns City School district by engaging in service on multiple fronts including, but not limited to, after school care and tutoring, focused prayer ministry for all three Karns City schools, and work with Christ following teachers and staff to see their work as a mission field.
- Utilize resources for Karns City area for drug and alcohol rehabilitation including Recovering Redemption group.
- Partner with Mental Health Grace Alliance to start a ministry to support families touched by Mental Illness.
- Support and serve the veteran community in the Petroleum Valley.

## Zion of Jefferson County

- Develop and implement a strategy to help and invest in families living near Longview Park.
- Partner with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) and other local churches to launch and establish a Kids Club at Hickory Grove Elementary School.
- Engage in ministering to prisoners at the Jefferson County Prison.
- Continue to partner with Women at the Well.
- Work with The Community Gardens, a place of learning and sharing with those in need of healthy food.

**In addition to these stated areas, we are prepared to release the Body to serve in areas that are in line with our mission and vision and their passion and gifting.**



## We will focus on being Sent to the World

Jesus tells us to take the gospel "to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) We will focus time and resources on a few places around the world. We will leverage worship gatherings, Life Groups, and corporate prayer times to create deeper awareness within the church family. We believe this allows for deeper relationships with missions partners and increased burden and effectiveness in reaching people in these areas. Over the next five years, our focus will be in the following places:

- Church planting through the Southern Baptist Convention in Pennsylvania- In addition to monthly financial support we will work with planters in the state by sending teams to do short term work when needed.
- Orphan Care in the Philippines- We will continue working with the Gormley's to develop the Bahay Sibol orphanage by sending teams and resources as well as encouraging our church family to consider sponsoring an orphan living there.
- Holistic Ministry Training Center in Nigeria- We will work with Raymond Gobum to establish and develop the Center for Entrepreneurial Development and Skill Acquisition (CEDSA). This training center will focus on discipleship by providing Nigerians practical skills they can use to provide for their family. Additionally, it will provide a training and retreat center for pastors. We will send teams of people with skills in agriculture, carpentry, mechanics, etc and resources that will be used to develop the center.
- Kids' Alive International in Haiti- Our student ministry will serve this ministry every other summer by providing teams to work on construction projects and putting on children's programs.

Because "sending" is Jesus' global strategy, by 2020 we will send 100 people on short term missions' trips domestically and internationally.

## We will focus on Growing our Generosity in Giving

Jesus said "It is more blessed to give than to receive." We believe that being a sending church means sending people and resources. Over the next 5 years, we will intentionally and strategically increase the percentage of missions giving. Currently, we are giving 7% of our budget on local, regional, and global missions.

Because growing our generosity as a church will align our hearts with God's nature as a Giver, by 2020 we will send 20% of our total revenue to local, regional and global missions.

## My Part in the Vision.....

By God's grace and for His glory, I will engage in the 2020 Vision:

\_\_\_ Grow up to become a Spiritual Parent

\_\_\_ Participate in a Life Group

\_\_\_ Get involved in community outreach at my location

\_\_\_ Go on a Short Term Missions Trip

\_\_\_ Grow in my generosity in giving      Other \_\_\_\_\_

