

Park Meadows Baptist Church

Amplified Vision Statement

(Developed January 2021)

Park Meadows Baptist Church seeks to become...

'An equipped and unified family who believe in and follow Jesus, to make a difference in the lives of others.'

This vision is just one sentence. It may seem brief, but there is a lot of meaning packed into these simple words. What we will do in this document is go beyond the simple words in that statement and paint a picture of the full vision that the leadership feels God has for PMBC that is reflected in those simple words.

Vision Purpose

What is a vision statement is and why it is important?

- Our vision statement should:
 1. Answer the question - Why does PMBC do what it does?
 2. Guide decision making for the church.
- Our vision statement does not negate or forget the past in our church, but rather should reflect a preferred future state. It should be God-inspired and based in biblical truths.
- Our vision should reflect the current realities of our church and how we view ourselves moving forward into the future. When our situation changes, or as a church we feel God directing a change in our focus, our vision statement should change to reflect the new focus.
- Our vision statement will also play an important role in our lead pastor recruitment. We want to find a pastor that believes in our vision, will commit to it and lead us to achieve it.

Realizing the importance of a vision statement, we recognized the difficulty in capturing everything that is important and relevant in the church, all in one sentence. It needs to be a clear meaningful statement that:

- captures the essence of our particular church,
- captures where we feel God wants us to focus and,
- provides direction for decision-making to the leadership.

In the following paragraphs we amplify our vision which our church leadership feels is:

- God inspired
- Prayerfully considered
- Directed by you the church and
- Reflects our current situation

Vision Amplified

In the development of our vision statement we used our recently-developed church framework to guide our discernment about who we sense God is calling us to be and what He is calling us to do.

Gather (to Worship)

We envision:

- A building, vibrant and buzzing with excitement and anticipation.
- A sanctuary full of people who have come to focus on God, not themselves or particular components of the service.
- Everyone actively participating, whether that is up on stage or putting yourself in the right frame of mind and heart to hear God speak to you as an individual.
- Room for newcomers and a focus on hospitality.
- Prepared and focused leaders, leading engaging and vibrant services.

Connect (as a Community of Faith)

We envision:

- A culturally diverse family of faith focused on building and maintaining intentional relationships with each other in the church and with those we encounter during our daily lives.
- As a church, being plugged in to the broader community of faith in our city and beyond.
- A structure to provide help and support where there is need in our church and neighbourhood.
- Strong ministries that support development of relationships beyond Sunday mornings, such as a vibrant small group ministry.
- Rich relationships characterized by love, time, grace and food.

Grow (as disciples of Jesus)

We envision:

- Formal structure to support bible-based individual growth (mentorships, small groups, Sunday school)
- Learning to show love and grace to one another as a family of faith.
- Growing our kids and youth.
- A church family that is excited about their relationship with God, with overflow to friends and family an expected result.
- An emphasis on spiritual growth that leads to knowledge *and* engagement (“knowing and going”).

Go (with the Good News)

We envision:

- A focus on ‘getting dirty’ as we go - sharing our faith through deeds and then words.
- Impacting our immediate community around the church through practical expressions of love (clothing drives, benevolent cupboard, etc).
- Impacting the lives of those we interact with daily.
- Impacting people around the world (OCC, Missions we support).

Focus (Oversight and Stewardship)

We envision:

- Careful oversight of facility and finances - staying on top of needs and handling resources well.
- Church leadership that is attentive, generous and ‘on top of things’.
- Growing in our understanding that all we have belongs to God not us - we are simply stewards.
- Our assets are for use, not protection and ‘saving’.
- Our collective spiritual gifts are an asset – to be developed and used.
- Leadership that is trained and supported as they serve.

In the end, we sense God calling us to, *“Wear out not rust out...spread out not burn out...now grow up and go out!”*

Vision in Action

We pray, hope and believe that as we pursue our vision, we will see:

- A busy and vibrant Sunday morning community of believers that represents many cultures and generations.
 - Everyone actively engaging in worship as a means of connecting with God.
 - God inspired and bible based teachings from the pastors.
 - Our front doors wearing out, not rusting out.
 - All of us “Crossing the Room” to say hello to someone new to you.
 - Those scheduled to lock up on Sundays tapping their feet and waiting for everyone to finally finish visiting and connecting with each other after the service so they can lock up and go home.
 - A church building that is just as busy during the week as it is on Sundays, hosting small groups, children’s and youth programs and special events.
 - A church that the community sees as caring and a source of support to meet the real needs of those that may be struggling.
 - A family of believers showing love and grace to each other.
 - A family of believers that is committed to Growing in faith, so that we may ‘Go in faith’.
 - As we Grow as individuals, we will see the love of God overflow in each of us and impact those around us at work, at home or out in the community.
 - A church that is generous with all God has given us to steward.
 - A family of believers each willing to use their gifts to shoulder a share of the load so that the work is spread out and we don’t burn out.
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We understand we have a long way to go in order to achieve all that God is calling us to, but together we can - through the power and presence of the Spirit of Jesus - press on toward all that the Father has for us and for our neighbours. By God’s grace we will become,

'An equipped and unified family who believe in and follow Jesus, to make a difference in the lives of others.'