



Looking back

Moving forward

OLIVET'S 2023-2026 VISION

WE FEEL CALLED BY GOD TO DEVOTE OURSELVES OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS TO THESE AREAS OF MINISTRY:

1. CLEARLY DEFINING OUR IDENTITY AS OLIVET CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- Deepen our connection to our Disciples heritage through education and relationship-building.
- Introduce the Olivet Way as we know it: the way of deep roots, hope, imagination, and expansive belonging.
- Decide, develop, publish, share, and communicate what is the Olivet Way.
- Continue to commit to creation care and environmental stewardship.
- Re-engage a conversation around how we make the grace of God real for *all* people, ever expanding our welcome to others.

2. BEING A FAITH COMMUNITY FOR AND WITH OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

- Work to engage our congregation on which missions they would be inclined to support and encourage membership to bring forth needs they see in the community.
- Share with the community—both within OCC and beyond—what ministries we are already doing.
 - Develop a brochure showing the current budget and special project of the Outreach Team.
- Make Fifth Sundays into communication Sundays, highlighting and educating about an outreach priority.
- Consider new ways to reach our neighbors and meet invisible needs. Perhaps a Farmer's Market East?
- Create a community garden with our space.
- Offer classes to congregants and community members on practical topics (e.g., finances, parenting, technology).

3. CREATING CONNECTIONS AS WE NAVIGATE THE UPS AND DOWNS OF LIFE TOGETHER

- Create a Christian Education Team that supports the faith formation of all generations.
- Regularly offer Disciples of Christ identity classes.
- Offer "Welcome to Olivet" sessions for visitors. Create a system to follow-up with visitors.
- Train and increase the number of Shepherding Elders.
- Develop a new process for pastoral care communication.
- Increase Opportunities for sharing and teaching spiritual practices.
- Develop a Fellowship Ministry Team that creates and facilitates regular fellowship events.

OTHER GOALS IN SUPPORT OF MINISTRY:

Worship

- Offer opportunities for enhancing worship services—art, acting, music, etc.
- Continue to invest in online ministries and worship.
- Expand our commitment to the already exciting music ministry of our church.
- Purchase and create new sanctuary adornments.
- Monitor accessibility audit (hearing, sight, mobility in worshipping spaces).

Stewardship & Generosity

- Support the development of stewardship practices.
- Grow the membership of the Finance Team.

Buildings & Grounds

- Continue to support the work of the Dream Team and encourage ongoing updates with the congregation.
- Continue to develop and support the work of the Property Team.
- Make a decision regarding the Old Church.
- Continue the work of integrating environmentally sustainable practices and materials into our property considerations.
- Conduct an accessibility audit of our building.

Governance & Structural Processes

- Allow and promote the ongoing development of organizational changes.
- Change committees into "teams". (More than a name change!)
 - Every team gathering, meeting, and event will begin and end with prayer or other ways to get better acquainted and extend prayers for one another.
 - Every team will have a clear biblical purpose and vision.
 - Every team will have a committed and informed group of volunteers.
 - Every team will have a facilitator who leads and represents that team.
 - Every team facilitator will meet at least annually with ministers to set clear goals and participate in Program Council to allow communication between teams, Board, and staff.
- Clarify roles of teams and Mission Family structure to ensure they effectively serve our current needs.
- Offer an annual Team Fair to communicate what each team does and how members might support the work of various teams.

