

1. Vision Creation: Ezekiel 37:1-10

“Then he said to me “Prophesy to the bones...So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army”.

In the next three years, The Christian Church in Georgia will be a faithful God inspired community with vibrant clergy, supported congregational leaders, and connected congregations who impact and change communities for the glory of God.

We will:

- Provide uplifting opportunities for dialogue about God’s vision for our region in the next 2-3 years to include the following options:
 - Retreats in partnership with pastors and congregational leaders with the purpose of creating God centered interaction between regional and local congregational ministries.
 - Annual Cluster meetings to celebrate congregational and regional accomplishments as well as share what congregations learned during the process.
 - Learning opportunities for clergy and for congregations to enhance leadership skills and mission driven ministries.
- Create imperatives for a beloved community inclusive of every congregation and community, advocating and leading in social justice, empowerment initiatives and unity.
- Recruit and retain volunteers with diverse attributes for regional ministry teams, commissions, and initiatives.

2. Vision focused clergy and pastors/Clergy nurture and leadership development: John 21:15-17

“...do you love me...?” Yes Lord you know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Feed my lambs...”

Clergy in the role of pastor, chaplain, commissioned minister, educator, or any expression of vocational ministry are charged to provide leadership, nurture, and care to the community of faith and the larger community. The health and vibrancy of the clergy as leaders and shepherds is a major priority of our ministry together.

We will:

- **Create tools of engagement to inquire what would be helpful to clergy in assisting them with personal care and development and leadership for the care and nurture of their congregations**
- **Provide spaces for mentoring relationships to develop more effective leadership practices**
- **Provide resources for sabbaticals and succession planning**

3. Vision Resources/Stewardship: Matthew 25:14-23

“To one he gave five talents of money, to another he gave two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability...Well done good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things...”

We are stewards of God’s resources. Stewardship is a life giving and hope filled expression of ministry. Our collective ministry as a region is to nurture and cultivate congregations of vibrant faith that impact and transform local, district, and state-wide communities for the glory of Christ. What we invest as stewards in our congregations and in our region connects us to God's command to accomplish kingdom building work that promotes God's love to everyone. Not only does stewardship help to bring about the kingdom of God, it helps us to celebrate the kingdom of God that is already in our midst. We will increase our resource capacity by doing the following:

- Stewardship education focused on financial health and giving as a spiritual discipline
- Develop a comprehensive stewardship strategy including congregational and individual giving and other streams of resources
- Use best practices in resource management and transparency of region financial affairs
 - Design a narrative budget for 2016
 - Regional and congregational stories of celebration
 - Establish and strengthen covenantal relationships.
 - Include Georgia’s congregational stories of ministry in National and Regional Offering promotions

4. Vision Communication: Habakkuk 2:2-3

“...Write down the revelation, make it plain....it will certainly come...”

Communication is essential in getting the message out, getting it right, and compelling others to invest in kingdom building work. There are many avenues and technologies in communications. We must embrace as many as possible to touch every generation, every culture, and every congregation in Georgia. We will:

- **Embrace more technology by:**
 - **Update the existing website while transitioning to a newly developed website**
 - **Increasing visibility of the Georgia Region and congregations via web sites, through Social Media Growth (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, blogging, posting, etc.)**
 - **Creating space for virtual conversations about life and ministry with young adults and the neighboring communities nearby congregations in the Georgia Region**
 - **Develop a virtual resource repository for congregations who wish to embrace easy-to-access and easy-to-use cost-effective technology platforms.**
- **Improve current vehicles of communication to share prayer requests, life events, congregational celebrations, and calendar of events for the year**
- **Organize an intentional communications plan for congregations and clergy who do not have access to technology.**

5. Vision through strong congregations/ development and vitality: Eph. 3:7-12

“...His intent was that now through the church the manifold wisdom of God should be made known...”

The church is God’s tool and instrument to reveal God’s great love for the world. Each local congregation is a gift to the community in which it is located. Their mission is to restore all people to unity with God and to each other in Christ. Many of our congregations are located in changing communities and dealing with changing congregational demographics. Developing educational and inspiring learning opportunities and networks for pastors and congregational leaders can help congregations develop and maintain vibrancy. We will nurture our congregations in the following ways:

- Host conversations with congregations of similar profiles to learn from and encourage one another in developing new ideas
- Effect congregational spiritual transformation through partnered studies, retreats and mentoring relationships
- Prayer campaigns around discerning God’s vision for our congregations

6. Vision alignment in managing and developing mission, ministry, and programs: Eph. 4:1-16

“...to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ”.

Our region is filled with congregational life that is diverse and rich. This richness is the thread that keeps our women, men, youth, and camp programs together. Excellence in every program and ministry is a necessity and an expectation. We need the gifts and talents of every member in our congregations to help strengthen our current programs and to develop ministry opportunities that we cannot do alone. We will:

- Develop networks, “schools of education in youth, young adult, fellowship, worship, and spiritual formation” through leadership development events.
- Enhance social justice, outreach involvement, and mission projects
- Design goals and program measurements for all region sponsored events
- Redevelop Camp Christian Conference Center to increase usage and efficiency.