

FIRSTASSEMBLY OF GOD

Strategic Plan

2011 - 2021

12/11/2010

Honoring God; Growing Together; Touching our Neighbor; Reaching the World

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Mission Statement

Why are we here?

Since God’s purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world
- To be a corporate body in which Man may worship God
- To be a channel of God’s purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son

The mission is derived from the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39).

The Biblical Functions of the Church

What are we supposed to do?

With the above mission in mind, First Assembly recognizes that there are five basic, Biblical functions of the church: **worship, fellowship, discipleship, gift-oriented ministry, and evangelism**. The vision team has defined these functions below.

Worship:

Worship is **a lifestyle of reverent devotion** and allegiance pledged to God. This is commonly expressed community-wide (corporately) in agreed upon rituals and ceremonies.

Fellowship

True fellowship is represented by a **community of believers who are actively building genuine friendships** with one another. This comes about initially through the sharing of common interests and praying for one another.

Discipleship

Discipleship is the process of making disciples. This involves the principle of 2 Timothy 2:2 – **compassionately and relationally teaching** faithful men and women Biblical truths in such a manner that they in turn will also teach others.

Gift-Oriented Ministry

Gift-oriented ministry happens when the local community of believers is **encouraged through the Holy Spirit's gifts** to each individual.

Evangelism

Evangelization is the **intentional** proclamation of the Gospel of Christ by actively and purposefully **going into, or engaging, the community**.

With these defined functions in mind, First Assembly of God, therefore, is to be a community based upon authentic, intimate relationships. It strives to teach Biblical truths in compassionate, relational settings. It believes the purpose of the community is to encourage each other through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, spur one another on in a lifestyle of reverent devotion, and to intentionally engage the community with the Gospel of Christ.

Vision Statement

How are we going to do it?

The vision statement of First Assembly of God in Thibodaux Louisiana is **Honoring God; Growing Together; Touching our Neighbor; Reaching the World**.

The purpose of this vision statement is to cast a vision and set direction the local church should move in the next five to ten years. It should be re-evaluated periodically as the culture of the community and the make-up of the church inevitably will change every few years. While the mission statement and Biblical functions explain the overall purpose of the church's existence, the vision is the preferred desire of the local body to play out that mission.

The chosen vision statement emphasizes four areas of relationship and responsibilities the local church has – the church's relationship with God; the church memberships' relationship with each other; the

relationship the church has with the local community; and the church's responsibility to play a part in global missions that may or may not have a direct correlation with its local mission.

Core Values

The following core values are the DNA of First Assembly. These values were derived out of the vision statement. While the vision statement explains how First Assembly intends to carry out the mission of the church, the core values are intended to be the vehicles for carrying the vision out, and are the measuring stick for all ministry programs. For each program, whether it be the daycare, adult Sunday School, Royal Rangers, the youth group, etc., the question should be asked: "How are the core values being incorporated into this program?" or "Is this program an effective tool to transmit the core values to members of the congregation?"

- Exalting God Through Prayer and Worship
- Being Spiritually Sensitive
- Becoming Servants
- Compassionate, Relational Teaching
- Building Genuine Friendships
- Purposeful Discipleship
- Upholding One Another
- Daily Missional Living
- Recognizing, Supporting, and Participating in Ministries Outside of the Local Community

Goals, Action Steps, and Performance Measures

In order to ensure that the church's core values are actually being played out, the vision team has laid out several goals that correlate with core values. For each goal, action steps have been laid out and performance measures developed that can be used to judge if each goal is being accomplished as originally intended.

Plan Development

This plan was developed over the course of ____ months beginning in DATE. The vision team consisted of stake holders within First Assembly that include the senior pastor, youth pastor, a representative of the deacon board, representatives of the worship ministry, representatives of the adult Sunday School program, representatives of the children's ministry, and a U. S. missionary to the local college campus. The vision team was assisted by the National Assemblies of God Church Transformation Network.

Plan development consisted of quarterly weekend retreats and additional weekly brainstorming and prayer meetings throughout the ____ months.