

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 16TH, 2022 // VISION SERVICE

A SIMPLE VISION

To lead people to Christ through **authentic worship, authentic community, and authentic community service.**

THE VISION STATEMENT OF GOD

As Jesus was ascending back to heaven, He looked at His followers and shared His vision for the church. Jesus tells us in Matt. 28:19-20 to go and disciple, baptize and teach people to do all the things Jesus has told us to do.

- This sounds simple, but it takes the entire NT to show us how we're to accomplish these core objectives.

WORSHIP GATHERINGS

A COMMITMENT TO CORPORATE WORSHIP

From the birth of the Christian church in Acts 2 all the way through Revelation, the NT tells us to corporately worship as a church body (Heb. 10:24-25, Matt. 16:18, 18:20, Col.3:16, Eph. 4:11-13, Rom. 10:17).

- **Corporate worship brings us closer, activates joy, reassures us, and tunes us into focusing on God.**

A COMMITMENT TO THE WORD OF GOD

Our church will always have a strong commitment to expository teaching. **Studying verse-by-verse prohibits us from skipping the hard topics, and it puts the Bible in the proper context.**

- This method **helps comprehension, creates a love of the Word, and grows Christians much faster.**

COMMUNION, PRAYER, AND QUESTIONS

We end every service with **communion** in order to bring every lesson back to Christ. This is a great time to repent and reflect.

- We offer **prayer** for anyone who may need to confess or ask for spiritual help.
- We always invite people who may not believe yet to **ask a pastor questions** and possibly move forward.

NEXT

EASY AND INFORMATIVE NEXT STEP

On the 2nd Monday of every month, we invite anyone who is interested in learning more about The Experience to come to a Next Class.

- A casual night where you get to have a meal with the team, hear my story, hear the church's story, take a tour, and take your next steps in the process.

COMMUNITY

GOD IS COMMUNAL AND WE SHOULD BE TOO

The Trinity shows us that God is communal, and if we are made in His image, we are also to be in community. The church has always met corporately on the weekend and in small groups during the week.

- **Small groups foster accountability, deep discussion, friendships, intergenerational mentors, and support.**

THIS IS WHERE "CHURCH" REALLY HAPPENS

The weekend service isn't designed for intimate interaction and relationships, but small groups are.

- In any church of any size, it's easy for us to be overlooked and become spectators instead of active participants. That is why we must take the step to be in intentional relationships through groups.

DEVELOPMENT

FOLLOWING JESUS

A 7-week intro to the Christian faith that covers **prayer and worship, the Bible, baptism and communion, the Holy Trinity, the church, how to share our faith, and discipleship.**

- Next group starts April 5th. You will be able to sign up on the app or website closer to the event.

AUTHENTIC DISCIPLESHIP (BORO)

- A 12-week group that goes into practical and effective ways to make disciples that make more disciples. The next group starts Jan. 25th.

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

This is a personal, simple, and effective tool to put disciple-making into practice. Download the ECC app and click on **Home > Development > Discovery Groups** to get started.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

- **Experience Finance:** Starting in January at our Murfreesboro Campus. This will focus on budgeting, paying off debt, and handling money biblically; **Preparing for Marriage:** For couples that are engaged and participate at The Experience. Sign up on the website or app, or email info@experiencecc.com.

SERVING

SERVING OUR CITY

5000 is our homeless/low-income ministry that will be launching in 2022; **Art Ministry** takes care of the art needs within the church and will also work to enhance our city with art/murals; **Celebrate Recovery:** Become a host site for CR on a night not offered in the community, and **Non-profit support**

THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE

As we grow, we will launch more ministries creating more opportunities to serve. However, growth is fueled by your willingness to serve now.

- Please see us at the Connection table in the foyer after service and **sign up for ECCO, Production, Hospitality, Security, or our Prayer Team!**

MISSIONS

OUR STATE

- **Murfreesboro:** February 2009, **Cannon County:** August 2017, **Crossland** (Antioch): 2021, **Shelbyville:** August 2021, **MIT Program:** This is our residential 1-year training program to launch more churches around the state in areas that need it the most.

OUR NATION

- **Church at the Well,** Burlington, Vermont, **Hope Church,** Delmarva, Delaware, **City Church,** Albany, New York, **Grace City,** Boston, Massachusetts
- These relationships have been hard during COVID, but we feel like aiding churches in the Northeast is something we are called to do.

OUR WORLD

- **El Salvador:** Kings Castle focuses on sharing the gospel with elementary-age kids (500+). We also connect with local leaders, **Uganda:** Tara Henson working with street kids, teaching FJ, and training pastors, **Southeast Asia:** Toffer and Becky King, **Mentor Leaders:** Togo and Haiti.

FINANCES

ECC NETWORK (ALL CAMPUSES)

- 2021 Predicted Budget: **\$8.2 Million**, 2021 Actual Budget: **\$8.3 Million**, 2022 Budget: **\$8.3 Million**, Overall staffing: 32% of Total Budget, Overall Benevolence: **\$2.4 Million - 30% of Total Budget**

ECC NETWORK (NETWORK ONLY)

- **Budget:** \$2,494,940, **Administration:** \$886,974 (Salaries and benefits), **Creative:** \$54,000 (Graphics, Photo/Video, Art Ministry, Communication), **Operating Costs:** \$671,120 (Security, Networking/IT, Maintenance, Insurance), **MIT:** \$378,046

THE EXPERIENCE SHELBYVILLE

- **Budget:** \$282,541*, **Administration:** \$149,514 (Salaries and benefits) – 52.92%, **Other Admin:** \$30,168 (Maintenance, Taxes, General Admin) – 10.68%, **Benevolence:** \$55,959 – 19.81%, **Ministry Expenses:** \$31,900 – 11.29%, **Operating Cost:** \$15,000 (Utilities, Printing, Building Repair) – 5.31%, **Mortgage:** \$67,440 – *Not included in the budget. **Actual Giving 2021:** \$273,061, **Actual Budget** (Inc. Mtg): \$349,981, Difference: **\$ -76,920**

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO THE VISION

I do not know who gives at this church. Whether one believes tithing is a NT thing or not, it is impossible to argue that Christians should not financially contribute to the mission of the church.

- **If we're going to advance the gospel, it will take not only time and effort but also a financial commitment.**

HOW ARE WE DOING?

AUTHENTIC WORSHIP

Worship Nights have been great, and we have one coming up in February.

- **Weekend services** will seat 198 per service. **We're being careful not to let size be our only success metric. We want to grow with integrity through discipleship. Baptized over 200 in 2021:** We also want to do this based on knowledge, not just emotion.

AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY

Life Groups: Small groups are vital to the health of the church. Email us at shelbyville@experiencecc.com if you are interested in leading or joining a group.

- **DBS Groups:** Small groups that meet using app materials to facilitate teaching; **Following Jesus:** 52 people completed our FJ course in the first year. We would like everyone to attend one, **Authentic Discipleship:** available in Boro until launched at this campus. An important step in the discipleship process, and New groups launching every Following Jesus and Authentic Discipleship cycle.

AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY SERVICE

We are giving more away than we ever have to non-profits, community projects, and benevolence.

- Continue to build relationships with local non-profits and create a rotation of giving through non-profit highlights, and foster relationships with students at Bedford County Learning Academy.

DISCIPLE MAKERS

SIMPLE AND EFFICIENT

Our mission has always been to lead people to Christ, disciple, teach the Word, baptize, and equip. We welcome ALL people into these doors, but we will not relent on biblical principles.

- Are you looking to grow intimate with God and get your hands dirty changing your world?

OUR "RALLY CRY" TO BEGIN 2022

Our main focus for the beginning of this year is to streamline everything we do to focus on **making disciples of Jesus that make more disciples of Jesus.**

- Jesus spent the majority of his ministry equipping a few disciples to change the known world. **Following His example will be our focus this year!**