

**MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Strategic Plan for Ministry and Mission

Approved by the Session on February 23, 2009

*GROUNDING in the GRACE OF GOD*

**STRATEGY 1 – Encourage the practice of generous, faithful and responsible stewardship in our personal and corporate lives.**

	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
1.1	Work to create within the congregation a culture marked by the generous sharing of all God's gifts.	Stewardship
1.2	Encourage a greater participation on the part of more members in financial support of the church.	
1.3	Convey clear and consistent expectations concerning norms for giving.	
1.4	Develop and follow policies to assure that the church lives faithfully and responsibly within its financial means, maintaining a balanced annual budget by 2011.	Session, Trustees, Finance
1.5	Pursue energy-saving initiatives as identified in the energy audit, giving priority to projects whose costs can be recovered in 2 years or less.	Trustees
1.6	Investigate solar panel usage.	
1.7	Research the lease of the interior structure of the steeple for use as a cellular tower.	
1.8	Revisit , on a periodic basis as market trends may indicate, the question of whether to sell the Daniel Garber painting, <i>Delaware Idyl</i> , currently on loan to the Newark Art Museum.	Garber Commission

*WE ARE a VIBRANT CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY*

**STRATEGY 2 -- Build community and strengthen relationships within the church across all generations.**

	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
2.1	Consider whether a new Council should be formed to oversee the implementation of this strategy, keeping in mind the programs and commitments related to this ministry in which current Councils and groups are already engaged,	New Council Task Group <sup>j</sup>
2.2	Develop a mission statement and organizational structure for the new Council if the recommendation is that one be formed.	
2.3	Explore ways to reach out to parents involved in Weekday Nursery School.	Children and Family

**STRATEGY 3 – Develop programs to interpret the ministry and mission of MPC to the congregation on an ongoing basis.**

	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
3.1	Establish a schedule of bi-weekly Minutes for Ministry and Mission, giving each Council and Board two Sundays per year.	Staff, Council Chairs
3.2	Create an "opt-in" campaign to motivate members to download <i>MPC Currents</i> directly from the web site.	Communication
<b>STRATEGY 4 – Involve more people in the ministry and mission of the church through the more effective use of volunteer resources.</b>		
	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
4.1	Replace the current data base system with a more user-friendly program and train Council members and staff to its use.	Personnel
4.2	Strengthen the church's ministry to " <i>those who are in need, to the sick the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith</i> " (G-6.0402).	Deacons, Congregational Care
4.3	Recruit and train additional help to perform duties traditionally done by deacons such as ushering and greeting.	Deacons
4.4	Create a formalized greeting program.	
<i>DISCIPLES of ALL AGES GATHERED for WORSHIP</i>		
<b>STRATEGY 5 – Continue to develop and introduce elements of worship – both on Sunday morning and in services outside of Sunday morning – which are participatory, experiential and faithful to the Reformed tradition.</b>		
	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
5.1	Continue to develop, introduce and evaluate alternative forms and styles of worship.	Worship
5.2	Strengthen and expand the graded choir program for all ages (children, youth and adult).	
5.3	Identify and implement new ways to engage youth in the liturgy.	
5.4	Evaluate the instrumental needs of the vocal and bell choirs.	
5.4	Perfect the Sunday morning schedule so that it optimally meets the needs of the whole congregation in the areas of worship, education, music and fellowship.	Sunday Morning Schedule Task Group <sup>ii</sup>
<i>DISCIPLES of ALL AGES . . . GATHERED for NURTURE</i>		
<b>STRATEGY 6 – Embrace the nurture of our youth, provide active support for youth-related ministries, and include the youth in all aspects of the church's life.</b>		

	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
6.1	Continue to support Youth Club in its new commitments and expression.	Youth and Young Adult
6.2	Evaluate existing youth programs and consider alternatives.	
6.3	Develop and sustain vibrant Youth Group programs for Junior High and Senior High Youth.	
6.4	Introduce new programs for young adults in the "twenty-something" age range.	
<b>STRATEGY 7 – Involve a greater portion of the congregation in dynamic Christian education programs for all ages.</b>		
	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
7.1	Develop a new approach to build and sustain junior high and high school education.	Educational Ministry
7.2	Include music as an educational element for all children.	
7.3	Refine the approach to adult education on Sunday mornings.	
7.4	Evaluate and strengthen the approaches to teaching and learning used in K-5 education.	
<i>SCATTERED to SERVE and to LOVE</i>		
<b>STRATEGY 8 – Raise awareness of the ministry and mission of MPC throughout the region.</b>		
	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
8.1	Exploit the opportunities for connecting with people throughout the region via radio and cable television broadcasts.	Communication
8.2	Continue to expand awareness of MPC's activities and worship through advertising and publicity.	
8.3	Develop a community calendar network to forward scheduled events to all local media.	
8.4	Explore the use of campaign media available through the denomination with a view toward the possible inclusion of packaged ads in our current broadcasts and advertising.	
8.5	Repair and improve brick signs on street entrances.	Trustees, Communication
8.6	Install additional signs and lighting at driveway entrances.	
8.7	Be a presence at community events, representing MPC with marketing materials.	Evangelism
8.8	Reach out to those on real-estate turnover lists.	
8.9	Launch an "Invite a Friend to Church" campaign in connection with the 150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.	
<b>STRATEGY 9 – Continue the commitment to ministry and mission both locally and beyond our region.</b>		
	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>

9.1	Study the possibilities of hosting a "nesting congregation."	Outreach
9.2	Organize a permanent Food Center Board to develop and implement a long-range plan for the Food Center Ministry.	
9.3	Participate in the Ivins House Board's strategic planning process.	
9.4	Include intentional spiritual formation time in preparation for annual mission trips.	Youth and Young Adult, Outreach
9.5	Encourage mission interpretation through sharing personal stories of faith following mission trips.	
<i>ADMINISTERING the STRATEGIC PLAN</i>		
<b>STRATEGY 10 – Focus the administration and management of church resources on the implementation of this Strategic Plan.</b>		
	<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
10.1	Build a staffing model comprised of paid staff and volunteers to implement this plan.	Personnel
10.2	Prepare and adopt a revised 2009 Budget to fund this plan.	Budget Task Group; Session
10.3	Utilize, maintain and improve the physical facilities as may be required to accommodate the physical needs of this plan.	Trustees
10.4	Orient all Councils and Boards to the overall plan (including the congregation's Nominating Committee), and focus their efforts on the initiatives referred to them by this plan.	Staff; Chairs of Councils and Boards
10.5	Direct all Councils and Boards to report to Session monthly on the progress toward implementing the initiatives referred to them; including specific goals and objectives, and any recommendations for additional initiatives to this plan.	Councils, Boards, Committees, and their Staff Resources

END NOTES

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1. This "New Council Task Group" comprises the chairs of the following Councils (or their designees from the Council membership): 1) Adult Ministry, 2) Youth and Young Adult, 3) Children and Family, 4) Congregational Care, plus the pastoral and program staff members who are assigned to those Councils.
  
  2. This "Sunday Morning Schedule Task Group" comprises the chairs of the following Councils (or their designees from the Council membership):
    - 1) Board of Deacons;
    - 2) Educational Ministry,
    - 3) Worship,
    - 4) Children and Family and Adult Ministry Councils ; pastoral and program staff members who are assigned to these groups, and any additional stake holders the Task Group may identify.