

## Proposal: next steps to Classis Huron Visioning – August 2023

### Engagement of Classis in a broader way.

- We learned in the Restorative Practices conversation with Sean Baker, that effective discussions/decisions included:
  - Engagement (those affected have opportunity to be heard)
  - Explanation (why a decision? Why this decision?)
  - Expectation (clarify what is expected)
- We have built a good body of work with visioning processes by CMC, Diaconal Committee, CHMT, and youth ministry Leaders. We can consider additional visioning processes (Campus Ministries, incorporation of specific mandates – Safe Church, etc.
- It is time to take existing results/conclusions to a broader Classis meeting for input and affirmation. It is important to give ownership of the vision/ministry plan back to Classis itself.

### Proposal

- Roundtables: take a 2-hour time period in the February Classis meeting to discuss these priorities and any others that originate in the interim. Each table will focus on one priority, each priority might have multiple discussions.
- Questions to build towards an action/ministry plan and to build on this work may include:
  - Have we missed identifying a priority or transversal value?
  - If we achieve this priority what will that look like – how will we be and what is God calling us to do?
  - Why is it important that we do this as Classis?
  - What if anything is standing in our way to achieve this priority?
  - What type of activities may be involved?
  - What assumptions are we making as we plan these activities?
  - What inputs are required? What outputs do we expect?
  - When will we know we have been successful?
- We may consider an additional conversation at the May Classis meeting if necessary.
- CMC can prepare in January to act as table/discussion hosts to lead table discussion and record results – taking 15-30 minutes during the CMC meeting to get oriented and equipped.
- A one-page introduction to the exercise will be included in Joan’s report for this Classis meeting agenda (see attached) and in the following Classis meeting agenda to allow for discussion to happen at Church Councils. The completed exercises (CHMT, Diaconal Committee, CMC, Youth Ministry Leaders) will be available on the website if folks desire to see additional information. (attached).
- Summary of work to date

Transversal values: A transversal value is overarching and needs to be considered within each of the priorities we discuss. These values were emphasized in each of the separate visioning exercises. Each priority must contain an element of:

- Prayer
- Trust/Reliance/Obedience to God
- Discernment – Discernment is the pro-active capacity to recognize and respond to the presence and activity of God, both in our ordinary moments and the larger decisions of our lives. (Ruth Haley Barton)

Intentional Fellowship	Discipleship	Sustaining our Corporate Responsibilities	Missional Living
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storytelling</li> <li>• Meaningful conversations</li> <li>• Inclusive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership training</li> <li>• Discipleship of all ages</li> <li>• Priority on youth – equipping youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting Church planting, Campus Ministry, Youth Champion, Mission Catalyst, Prayer Catalyst, ministry students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighboring</li> <li>• Church Planting</li> <li>• Supporting Classical and denominational ministries</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building connections</li> <li>• Sharing joys and burdens</li> <li>• Proactive change</li> </ul>	<p>leaders and supporting Campus Ministry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration</li> <li>• Connecting to the Denomination</li> <li>• Safe Church</li> <li>• Financial giving</li> <li>• New approaches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging mission: as individuals, families, churches, denomination</li> </ul>