



# OUR 40/50 VISION

From our 40th anniversary to our 50th

In 2034, we will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church.  
In 2024, we completed a visioning process to discern where we  
think God wants to take us from year 40 to year 50.

We call this our 40/50 Vision.



**Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)

**And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.**

Acts 2:42 (ESV)

Why do we need a vision? Don’t we know what a church is supposed to be and do? It is spelled out clearly in the New Testament. We should be making disciples, preaching the gospel, teaching the way of Jesus, worshipping, sharing fellowship, and celebrating the sacraments. However, every church is unique, and every community is unique. There is no other church exactly like ours, and no other context the same as ours. Our vision is about whom God has made us to be and how we fulfill our mission where God has placed us.



**Our vision begins with a mission statement.**

**The mission statement answers the question,  
“What are we doing?”**

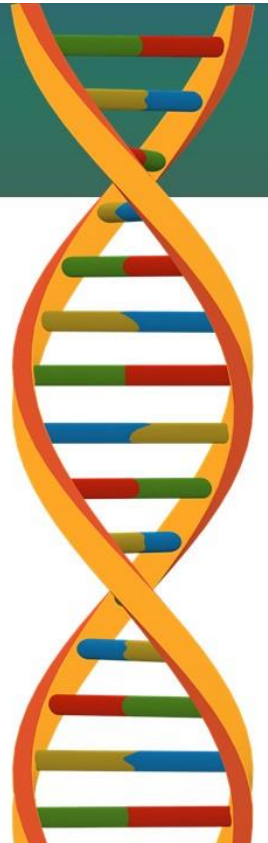
**Mission is what a person who comes into our church  
HEARS.**

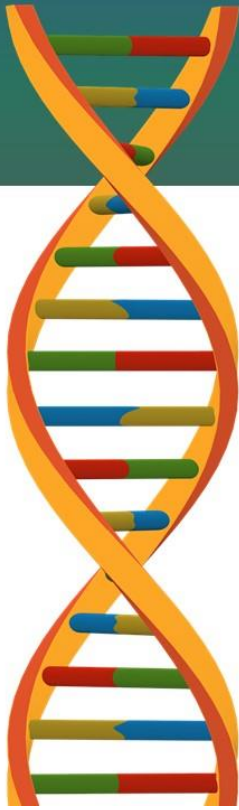


**Our vision defines our values.**

**Our values answer the question,  
“Why are we doing it?”**

**Values are what a person who  
comes into our church FEELS.**





# Mission Statement

## Sharing life together as Christ transforms us by His Truth

Our mission statement begins with “Sharing life together” because it is intended as an invitation. We share life together among ourselves as God intends us to, loving one another and bearing one another’s burdens. However, our fellowship is not a closed circle. Others are invited to share life with us. Sharing life together is an ongoing journey with those in the church and in our community.

Christ is the center of our mission statement. The phrase “as Christ transforms us” points to our theology of grace. Christ claims us as his own, and when he does, he transforms us. We acknowledge that the power comes from him and that we must be transformed.

The statement ends with Truth (with a capital “T”). This means objective truth. Truth that is true whether you believe it or not, whether you want it to be true or not. It is His Truth, not my truth or your truth. Our church stands firm on the truth of God’s Word and ECO’s Essential Tenets.

A loving fellowship, the power of Christ, the gospel of grace, and a commitment to biblical truth are both our identity and our mission.



# Core Values

- **Discipleship in a world of distraction**
- **Incarnation in a world of isolation**
- **Purpose in a world of preference**
- **Clarity in a world of confusion**

Palm City Presbyterian Church has four core values: discipleship in a world of distraction, incarnation in a world of isolation, purpose in a world of preference, and clarity in a world of confusion. These values reflect the best of who we are and who we want to be.

# Discipleship



## in a world of distraction

Discipleship in a world of distraction: Real life discipleship is more than what we believe, it is a way of life. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus. We make God a priority. Life is busy, but we choose to come to church on Sundays to worship as well as get involved by serving and taking part in church-related activities. We engage the community in various unique ways, getting people to look up (to God) and out (toward others) instead of down at their phones. Here is a story that illustrates this value: When our former youth director, Richie, resigned, parents and volunteers from the youth ministry leadership team stepped up to keep our youth groups going. Amy Urban led the middle school group on Wednesdays with help from some high school youth and other volunteers. Mike Witt and Mario Rodriguez, along with others, led the high school youth groups. When Marie Bartnick came as our interim youth director, they helped her with youth groups. They continue to be involved. They could have been home watching football, but they were with our young people, teaching and mentoring them.

# Incarnation



in a world of  
isolation

Incarnation in a world of isolation: People are lonely and socially isolated. Technology has replaced face-to-face, real-life connections. Filled with the Holy Spirit, we are the hands, feet and heart of Jesus. We want to connect with those living in physical and emotional isolation and bring them to a place where they feel safe and part of a community, part of a family. We build caring relationships with one another and are there for one another, providing belonging and community. Here is a story that illustrates this value: One of our deacons, Steve Breckley, had a trained therapy dog named Marty. Steve took Marty to visit hospital and nursing home patients, usually three days per week. During COVID, when they could not visit patients, Steve and Marty stood outside Cleveland North hospital in Stuart each morning at 6:30 to greet employees going off the night shift and those arriving for the day shift. Their presence boosted the morale of healthcare workers in our community during the crisis. When they could resume visiting people, they continued this ministry until Marty was forced into retirement by poor health. Marty died on July 30, 2025, at 9 years old. During his career, Marty the therapy dog visited over 2,000 patients.



# Purpose



## in a world of preference

Purpose in a world of preferences: We purposefully choose what is best for others and the greater good. We go outside of our preferences or comfort zone for the greater good. Here is a story that illustrates this value: Wayne Huizenga was a prominent businessman who started Waste Management and Blockbuster Video. He also owned the Miami Dolphins, the Marlins, and the Florida Panthers. He was a billionaire who gave generously to the South Florida community in many ways. He had a home at The Floridian near Palm City, and this was the church when he was here. He became friends with our former pastor Dick Anderson. Pastor Dick had a vision to build our family life center. He asked Mr. Huizenga to give the necessary funds. A primary purpose for the Family Life Center was to be the venue for our contemporary worship service. Even though Mr. Huizenga attended a traditional service, he recognized the need and gave the funds for the building to develop the contemporary worship service. He did not benefit, but he saw the need and potential, so he gave.



# Clarity



## in a world of confusion

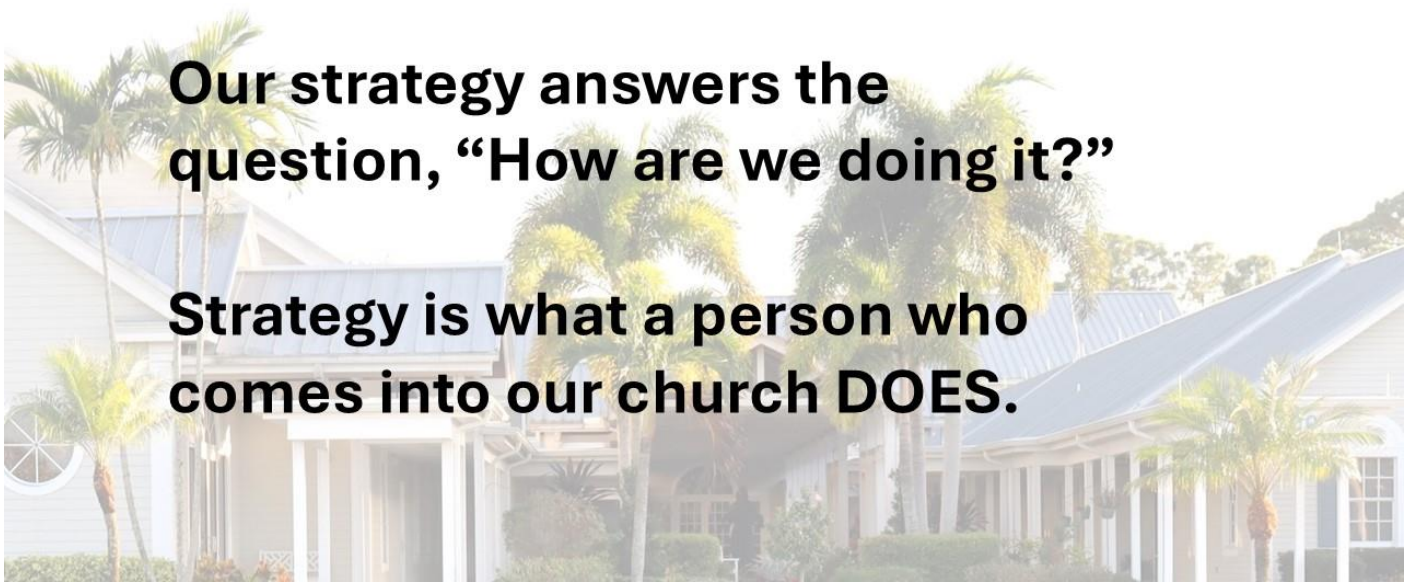
Clarity in a world of confusion: God has spoken and we are committed to hearing what he has said and living by it. PCPC offers very clear teachings of Truth with a capital “T.” That means objective truth: truth that is true regardless of popular opinion. Our church stands firm on the truth of God’s Word and ECO’s Essential Tenets. Here is a story that illustrates this value: In 2012, when ECO was formed, our church had to discern its direction. Our denomination at that time, the Presbyterian Church (USA), had become increasingly liberal in its theological and moral views. Changing its teaching on the authority of scripture, moral values, abortion, and the role of Jesus in salvation. ECO was started to be an alternative for churches that wanted to adhere to the faith as it is taught in scripture and the confessions of our church. Before our previous presbytery would dismiss us to ECO, they required a congregational meeting at which representatives from the presbytery would try to convince the church to stay in the PC(USA). At that meeting, someone in our church asked the representative from the presbytery, “Is Jesus necessary for salvation?” His answer was, “That’s above my paygrade.” This was a decisive moment that convinced many within the congregation that we must move to ECO. A presbytery leader was unable to

affirm the clear truth taught by Jesus, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” PCPC voted overwhelmingly to move to ECO, and we stand firmly on the truth of scripture and the Essential Tenets of ECO.

**Our vision includes our strategy.**

**Our strategy answers the question, “How are we doing it?”**

**Strategy is what a person who comes into our church DOES.**



# OUR STRATEGY



Strategy is the process that demonstrates how the church will accomplish its mission on the broadest level. It is the church's logic for achieving the mission. It is the pattern of how the ministries fit together to fulfill the mission. Think of it as the rhythm of church life. The Vision Team selected this cyclical strategy with the idea that a person can be introduced to the church through any of the three ministry points.

**Gather:** We gather for worship, Bible studies, fellowship and events both on and off church property. We are nurtured by our church family.

**Grow:** We learn continually to grow in our faith and biblical knowledge through Bible studies, sermons and classes offered on an ongoing basis for all ages. We grow individually and as a church family.

**Go:** We take what we have learned and share boldly within our community to spread the gospel and make disciples. Every activity of our church should fulfill one (or possibly more) of these functions. Our activities should reflect a balance of all three. Input (gather & grow) leads to output (go) which ultimately leads to impact. Going is not the same as growing.

**Busyness is not the same as progress.**



**Our vision includes our measures.**

**Our measures answer the question,  
“When are we successful?”**

**Measures are what a person who  
comes into our church BECOMES.**

## **Our measures**

### **We are**

- Learning continually
- Caring deeply
- Sharing boldly
- Praying fervently
- Serving generously
- Listening expectantly



**How do we know if we are successful? We use the following measures:**

1. Learning continually – We know we are successful when people are learning humbly, repeatedly, repentantly through scripture and worship; when they are transformed; when they are asking questions; and when they are repenting, letting go of the past, and moving forward.
2. Caring deeply – We know we are successful when people are authentic and genuine; when they are compassionate and loving; and when people feel seen, heard, and comforted.
3. Sharing boldly – We know we are successful when people intentional and bold in sharing their faith. They speak of their faith enthusiastically and in engaging ways. Everything at the church is gospel-centered.
4. Praying fervently – We know we are successful when our people are praying daily, consistently, frequently, faithfully, continually, purposefully, joyfully, and humbly. (We don't ask much, really.)
5. Serving generously – We know we are successful when people give their time, talent, and treasure; when they serving humbly, passionately, and joyfully.
6. Listening expectantly – We know we are successful when people listen to God intently, intentionally, and obediently; when they read scripture prayerfully and seek to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit.

**Finally, we come to the vision itself.**

**Our vision answers the question,  
“Where is God taking us?”**

**The vision is a picture of what our church will be like at the end of 10 years. It includes milestones we strive to reach in 3 years, 1 year, and 90 days. These milestones are evaluated and updated throughout the 10-year process.**



# Beyond the Horizon: 10 Years

**When PCPC reaches our 50th anniversary in 2034**, our community will know us as a church where everyone can find Christ's love and Truth. We will be like a sturdy and thriving tree, deeply rooted in the love of God and his Truth; continually growing in spiritual maturity; and yielding abundant fruit in the form of new disciples, emerging leaders, and youth raised in our church continuing in their faith serving Christ wherever he leads. People will hear the gospel with clarity and conviction; experience God's Truth in a warm, caring environment; and be inspired by our lifestyle of generosity. Those who participate in our shared life will grow spiritually and in their knowledge of Scripture, be able to explain the gospel, and be comfortable having conversations about faith. We pray that God will display his kingdom among us with undeniable power and joy!



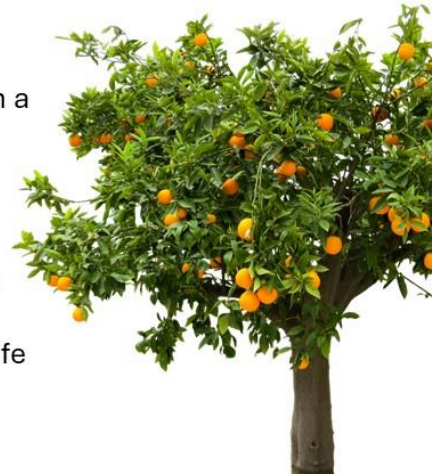
**Our 10-year goal paints a picture of what we want our church to be like at our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2034.**

We chose the image of a tree, which is a biblical image, to express the two things we most want to do: put down deep roots and bear much fruit. Roots mean discipleship, a commitment to spiritual formation. We want the people in our church to grow in their knowledge and practice of the faith. We want them to be like Jesus. Fruit in the Bible means obedience to God. It also means faithfully bearing witness to the gospel. We want everyone in Palm City to understand the gospel. Some will believe while others will not. How people respond is God's work. That they hear the gospel and understand it is our work.

# Background Vision: 3 Years

## What are our 3-year milestones?

- 1. Discipleship Pipeline:** We will define, develop, and deploy an intentional, holistic system for disciple making that integrates all programming and effectively fosters personal transformation from unchurched to disciple maker.
- 2. Leadership Structure:** We will reorganize our leadership structure to foster growth and equip, empower, and encourage all leaders to unite in a shared purpose with clear responsibilities and accountability.
- 3. Vision Frame Buy-in & Alignment:** We will intentionally introduce and implement the PCPC vision frame in a way that compels members to become partners with a shared vision.
- 4. Hospitality Culture:** We will foster a culture of hospitality that impacts our guest experience on campus and our community. We want to be a people eager to welcome others warmly and invite them into a shared life with us on and off campus.



We won't reach our 10-year dream in one step. Therefore, we set milestones along the way. By achieving these milestones, we move toward our ultimate goal. The visioning process we are using sets milestones at 3 years, 1 year, and every 90 days. The job of the Vision Team is to assess whether we are reaching these goals and to set new milestones along the way.

## We have four 3-year milestones.

[# 1] Currently, we offer many ways for people to grow spiritually: classes, special events, support groups, training, and so on. But it is like a buffet. Each person simply chooses what they want with no sense of logical order or progression. We want to organize our opportunities so that there is a logical progression. “Start here. Master this. Move on to the next step.” It would not be rigid. There could be many electives along the way—more than one path, so to speak. However, we would have a plan for moving someone from “exploring the faith” to committed and from “new to the faith” to “active in ministry.”

[# 2] This goal is about making sure our staff has the right people in the right places doing the right things. Also, our various committees and ministry teams should



operate with a clear understanding of what they are to do and the authority and resources they need to do it.

[# 3] We want everyone in our church to know our vision and to be excited about it. We want it to generate energy within the congregation, something that will motivate people to give their best.

[# 4] We want our church to be a warm and welcoming place where people feel at home. As one person said, “I have never been part of a church where I was freer to be myself.”

## Midground Milestone: 1 Year



By July 1, 2026, we will collect 175 Church Celebration Stories!

These are stories that show what God is doing in our church and that embody the values of our vision.

Our one-year milestone is to collect 175 Church Celebration Stories. These are stories that show what God is doing in our church and that embody the values of our vision. Examples would include the stories I (we) shared earlier about Wayne Huizenga, our move to ECO, and our deacon Steve Breckley and his trained therapy dog Marty. This is where you come in. Representatives from the Vision Team are sharing this presentation with our church's committees and ministry teams. We need you to collect these stories!



## Questions so far?

### How have you seen God at work at PCPC?

Email stories that embody our values and mission to: **vision@palmcitypres.org**

- ✓ Write “Church Celebration Story” in the subject line.
- ✓ Attach any photos you’d like to include.
- ✓ Write it directly into the email or in MS Word.
- ✓ No PDFs please.



Now, here is where your journey with PCPC’s 40/50 Vision begins and how you can help us. As I said, we are collecting 175 Church Celebration stories, like the ones I shared earlier. We need you to find those stories. Where has this group seen God at work in ways that embody our values and mission? Think about it. Talk about it. Then, when you find a story, share it. Here is how: email your stories to **vision@palmcitypres.org**. Write “Church Celebration Story” in the subject line. Feel free to attach photos. You can write the story as text in the email or you can attach a Microsoft Word document. Please do not send pdf files or files in other formats.

Of course, you are not limited to one story. We need many! We will share the best stories with the congregation on Sundays, through the newsletter, and in other ways.



God, our heavenly Father, we praise you for your love created the church universal and this congregation. Lord Jesus, we praise you for you died to redeem for yourself a holy people. You told us to “go, make disciples,” and you poured out the Holy Spirit to empower that mission. Holy Spirit, you have raised us from spiritual death to life and claimed us for Christ. We thank you for our church, for calling us together, and for gifting us for ministry. We trust that you have guided our vision process thus far. We pray that you are honored by it. We ask you to bless us and bring us to these goals. We confess that the power is yours, not ours. You build your church. You transform lives. Our job is to plant and water. You give the growth. Our job is to live and share the good news. You make it effective. We pray that you would give us love for you, love for our church, and love for those around us who do not know Jesus. In his name we pray, amen.