



# BROWNBACK'S UCC

Vision Plan 2019 - 2024

**Vision Statement**

Grow in spirit and faith through worship and fellowship

**Growth Measure:** yearly analysis of attendance and giving

Objective 1: We will strive to find ways to grow our spirituality.

1. Expand variation in the service

- i. Consider special services, like Youth Sunday or Christmas in July
  - 1. Accountability: Music and Worship
  - 2. Timeline: Minimum two per year
  - 3. Financial Impact: None

One piece of our strategy is holding special services, which will allow more people to be involved and attract new people to attend. By finding more ways to reach more people, we have the best chance to grow our faith body. Worship is a very important piece to our faith and having variety, like how we have different meals for dinner, will enhance our spirituality both individually and collectively.



- ii. Encourage more lectors
  - 1. Accountability: Music and Worship
  - 2. Timeline: Requests made quarterly
  - 3. Financial Impact: None

In terms of growing individually, this is an opportunity to step out of the pews and stand before God's people to present His words to everyone. This is one of the best ways to become more familiar with the Bible and the stories you may not have heard. We will also be able to hear from different people within our congregation and encourage others to do the same!

2. Vary music to meet a wide range of interests
  - i. Accountability: Pastor, Organist, and Choir Director
  - ii. Timeline: Ongoing
  - iii. Financial Impact: Minimal

Our rich variety of music was a common trend in our survey responses and listening sessions. Musical variety provides everyone with the ability to worship God in a personal way. Through new ways of hearing our praise to God, there will be an opportunity in which to feel and experience something new in worship. In our ever-changing world, we continually seek to keep our faith relevant and meaningful.



3. Continue growth toward more conversational sermons
  - i. Accountability: Pastor and Spiritual Council
  - ii. Timeline: Ongoing
  - iii. Financial Impact: None

Being more conversational is a lot of me finding my voice to be both comfortable and vulnerable, as I speak to God's word. In an ever-changing world, finding the courage and boldness to speak out and for what we believe can be challenging, but doing so will build greater trust for those who hear the message.

*(From, Pastor Mark)*

## Objective 2: We will enhance our outreach to those in need.

### 1. Increase physical involvement with our members, visitors, and community

- i. Establish a team of individuals to greet visitors and provide a welcome gift
  1. Accountability: Hospitality
  2. Timeline: Weekly
  3. Financial Impact: Minimal

Outreach is wherever we find ourselves and can communicate our love for Jesus. Another way of growing our spiritual lives is through the work that we do and connecting with others. Through this expansion of outreach and the intentional giving of ourselves and our time, we will be enriched through the worship of experience. Through this step, we will establish stronger connections with our visitors and pray for their continued worship at Brownback's. Making Brownback's as comfortable as possible for any new person will help us show how much our faith means to us as we welcome all to experience it.



- ii. Offer designated hours of service for members in need
  1. Accountability: Missions
  2. Timeline: Several days per year
  3. Financial Impact: None

We will extend our ongoing support for members who may find themselves with a need. We have so many talents and skills through the members of our congregation; it is important that we utilize these to help those who may be unable to complete a task. Together, this will build our faith family and result not only in acts of service but deeper relationships as well.

- iii. Provide input cards for those with a need or an interest in serving
  1. Accountability: Missions and Pastor
  2. Timeline: Ongoing
  3. Financial Impact: None

These cards will be collected during the Offering, like our Prayer Request cards. This will create a direct line of communication between the people and the Pastor. The Pastor will then make the connections required to meet the needs of our congregants, both those who present a need and those wishing to serve. This is a great way to keep members connected, especially those who may not be able to currently attend services and could use the extra help. By presenting a need to the church, it allows others the blessing to help and serve in the name of God.



- iv. Sponsor programs for young adults and families
  1. Accountability: Consistory
  2. Timeline: As needed
  3. Financial Impact: Minimal

Growing our faith body will be bolstered by having programs that meet the specific needs of young adults and families, like having childcare available. This may involve a program that begins by serving our own parents, or it could mean allowing an outside group, who benefits this demographic, the use of our facility. This step of our strategic plan will be met on an as-needed basis, so keep your ears open for opportunities with which our church can help.

- v. Expand physical outreach with charitable organizations in addition to financial support
  - 1. Accountability: Missions
  - 2. Timeline: Ongoing; contact organizations annually
  - 3. Financial Impact: None

This step of our vision began with members who wanted to be able to physically give of their time and a little elbow grease. Whether it is painting or assistance moving furniture, this offering of our time and resources builds the ongoing message that Jesus taught to many and that is to give of oneself. As we seek to grow, we also seek new venues in which to learn and join with all of God's children.



- 2. Organize a fundraising committee
  - i. Develop a frequency for fundraising events through collaboration with various committees
    - 1. Accountability: Fundraising (sub-committee of Fellowship)
    - 2. Timeline: Minimum two per year
    - 3. Financial Impact: None

The Fundraising Committee was created to further our ability to grow more financially stable and lessen reliance on our Endowment. This committee will work with our other committees to create fundraisers throughout the year. Through this process, we will also expand our fellowship with the community.

Objective 3: We will place a continued emphasis on the Christian education of children.

1. Develop additional ways for children and youth to participate in the Worship service
  - i. Implement children's bulletins
    1. Accountability: Christian Education
    2. Timeline: Weekly
    3. Financial Impact: \$120 per year
  - ii. Increase child involvement
    1. Accountability: Music and Worship/Christian Education
    2. Timeline: Ongoing
    3. Financial Impact: None

Having children participate in Worship brings a special energy to our service and allows them the opportunity of learning while doing. By increasing the involvement of our children and youth in the Worship service, they will learn more about being a part of Christ's body. This will also increase their sense of self-worth and ultimately, increase their commitment to the Church.



2. Establish fellowship activities for youth (grade 4 and up) to strengthen their relationships
  - i. Provide a half hour after the Worship service for children to engage in a fellowship activity and parents in faith-based conversation
    1. Accountability: Christian Education
    2. Timeline: Monthly
    3. Financial Impact: None

This opportunity for our children to engage with one another will allow their parents to concurrently have faith-based conversations. This time for the adults is meant to be ever-changing in order to meet their faith-related needs. While parents share much in common, they also each bring a unique perspective they can use to support the others in the group and simultaneously grow their own faith.



- ii. Organize opportunities for whole-family fellowship, both service and entertainment based
  1. Accountability: Christian Education and Fellowship
  2. Timeline: Multiple times per year
  3. Financial Impact: None

Time spent with one another will continually deepen our relationships. Some opportunities will be strictly meant for relaxation and fun; other events will be designed as a time of service for us to come together and meet a need in our community.



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Overall, I know it is the hope of the Vision Team and myself that we are working towards something bigger than what we see or can possibly understand. Working together for the common good, directed by our trust in the Holy Spirit, I believe that all things can be done in and through Christ. I hope that all of you hold this vision plan, knowing that the time is now and we are the ones!

With the hope of a mustard seed, may we grow together and stronger in our faith today and forevermore.

Sincerely,

Pastor Mark Stryjak