



St. John's Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

Ministry and Mission Direction

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Introduction

A representative membership of St. John's Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met together December 18, 2004. The group met together to determine the ministry and mission direction of the church. The group used the "Life cycles of the Church" and "The Changing Face of the African American Church: Ministry to Young Adults" for study and direction.

The ministry and ministry direction in this document is abbreviated. The goals, objectives and action plans are not listed. The explanation is the committees of session will develop goals, objectives, and action plans as they function in light of the vision and mission.

However, this document calls for new ways to do ministry and mission. It strongly encourages our officers and members to make a deeper commitment to our spiritual growth as we consider the health, vitality and growth of this congregation for Christ. This is written plain enough so that anyone who reads this document can see and understand its vision. And so with faith in our Lord, and the efforts and energy of our membership, we believe the vision will become a reality. And if it seems slow coming, wait for it, for it will surely come.



The Biblical Foundation

Habakkuk 2:1-4

I will climb up into my watchtower now and wait to see what the Lord will say to me and how he will answer my complaint. Then the Lord said to me, “Write my answer in large, clear letters on a tablet, so that a runner can read it and tell everyone else. But these things I plan won’t happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed. “Look at the proud! They trust in themselves, and their lives are crooked; but the righteous will live by their faith.”

Romans 12:1-5

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice — the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is. As God’s messenger, I give each of you this warning: Be honest in your estimate of yourselves, measuring your value by how much faith God has given you. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.



The Vision

A healthy, vital and growing congregation to the glory of God; where Christ is head; where partiality is none existent; and where everyone is welcomed.

The Mission

- We will grow deeper spiritually
- We will make disciples for Christ through membership in the church
- We will nurture and develop them spiritually
- We will equip them for their ministry and mission in the church and in the world
- We will provide opportunities for faith growth through worship, study, fellowship, and service to the glory of God



1 Where are we?

A. We are a “Recline” church

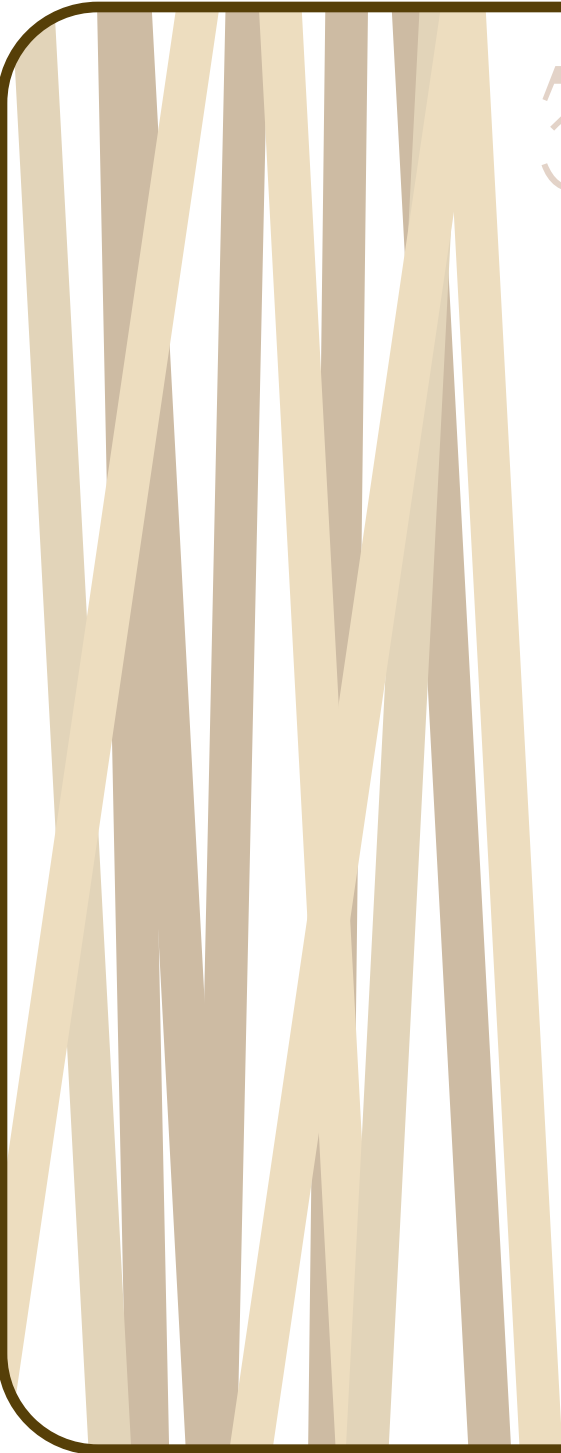
- Looks at the present
- Focused on self
- Ministry is maintaining
- Satisfied (with things the way they are)
- Low risk
- Low faith



2 Where do we want to be?

B. We want to be an “Incline” church

- Looks to the future
- Focused on community
- Ministry is building (growing)
- High intensity level
- High risk (8-9 projects/year)
- High faith (objective of what God can do in life/world)



3 How do we get to “incline”?

- Worship God celebrative
- Preach the Word (Jesus Christ)
- Movement of people from membership to discipleship
- Involvement in the community

(Think differently)

(Behave differently)

Ministry Team (see attachment B)



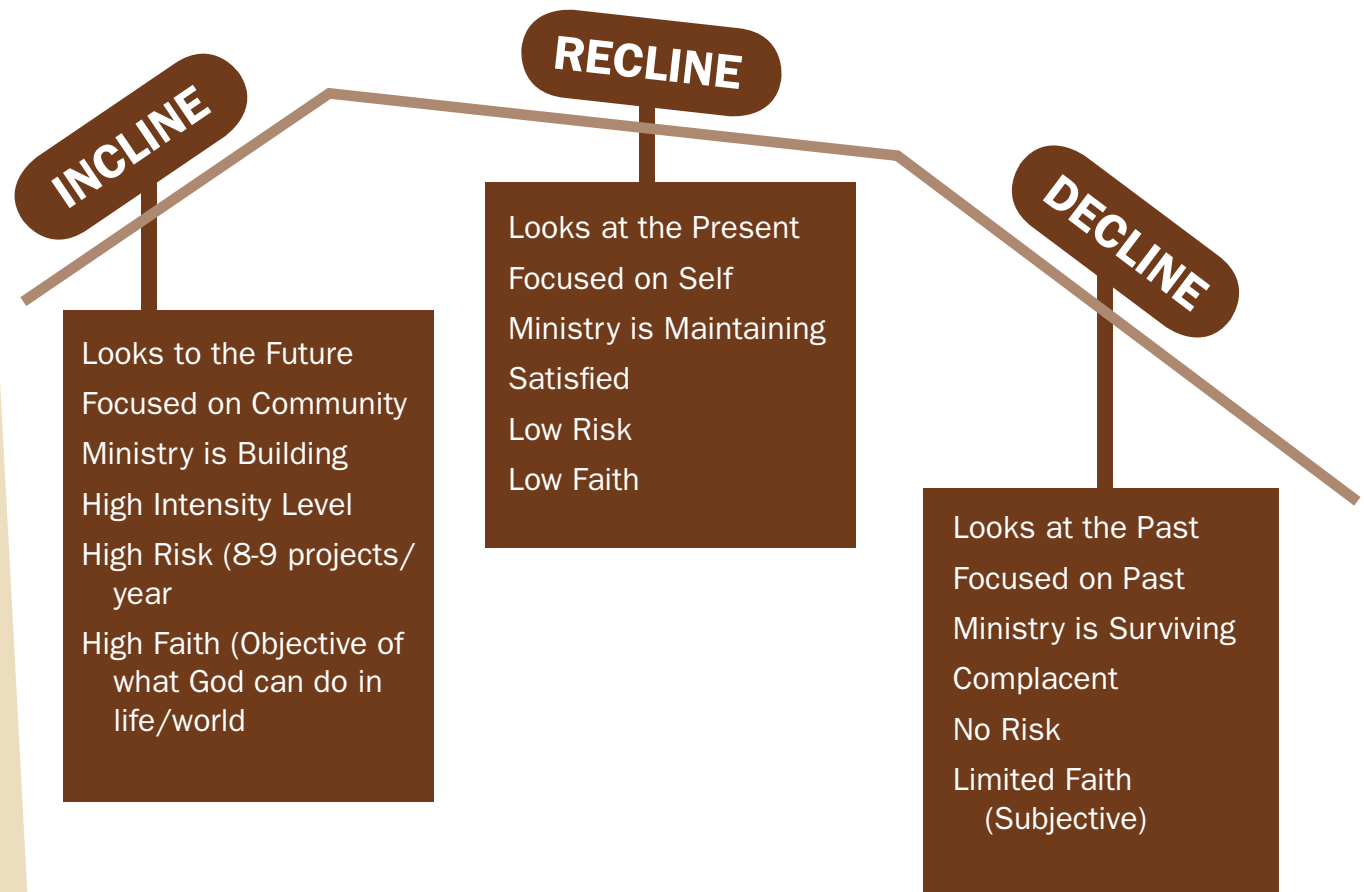
Conclusion

Significant Ministries in the Life of St. John's Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

- Day Care
- David Harmon Scholarship
- Deacon Ministry
- Music Ministry
- Men Ministry
- Women Ministry

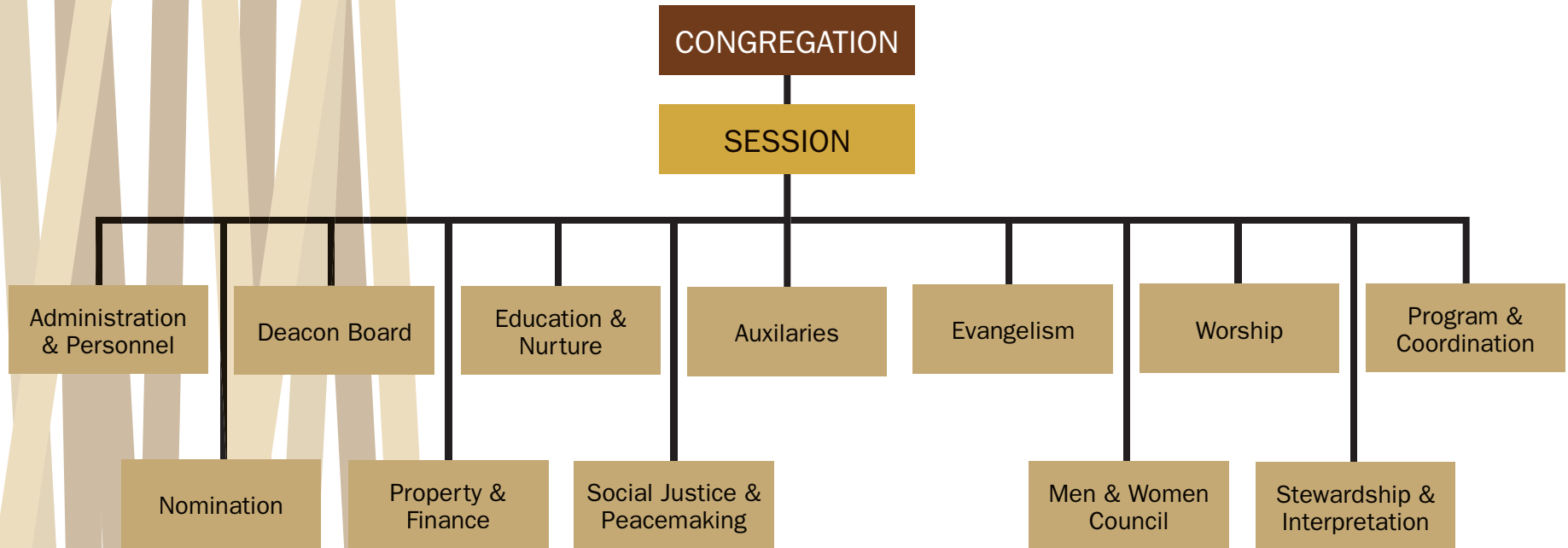
Attachment A

Life Cycles of the Church



Attachment B

St. John's Presbyterian Church Ministry Team



Note A: Session maintains oversight of formal organizations (auxiliaries, Deacon Board, Presbyterian Men, Presbyterian Women: G.10.0102)

Note B: In the nominating, training, examining, ordaining and installing church officers, the Session's responsibility is determined by the Book of Order (G.14.0201)