

## VISION 2020

Revision 4

April 21, 2020

**TO BECOME LIKE JESUS** - This is a vision of maturity and formation in Christ that leads to action for Christ.

We are called to imitate Jesus, who loved the Father with his whole being and shared the Spirit's love with the human race through sacrificial and compassionate acts of teaching, healing and setting people free in order that we might live the abundant life. Jesus established a new reality he called the Kingdom of God, in which we are invited to participate. Jesus has called all people to be his disciples and as those disciples we strive to know him and make him known through intentional faith development and sharing. We seek a deeper relationship with Jesus that we might be transformed, equipped and empowered to live out Christ's kingdom vision.

**Scripture References** – II Peter 1:5-7, Psalm 100, Philippians 2:5-7, Hebrew 12:1-3, Philippians 3:10-11, Ephesians 4:1-6.

**TO FORM MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY** – A community of love, faith and truth. This is a vision for deep relationships that give mutual support and develop us as followers of Jesus, while we carry out our mission together.

Jesus said, **“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them.”** While Jesus makes a call to individuals, he always calls and sends them to a fellowship of believers. Meaningful Christian community moves beyond mere acquaintances to a close family who sense they belong and share a common mission in Christ. We practice hospitality where all are welcomed. We meet regularly to listen to one another, engage with God's Word, speak the truth in love and pray for one another. We meet each other's needs and share our gifts with one another. The community exercises mutual accountability, shared purpose, respect and encouragement. In this atmosphere, we grow as the beloved people God created us to be.

**Scripture References:** Ephesians 4:11-16, Matthew 5:3-12, John 17:20-21, Acts 2:42-47

**TO BLESS AND BE BLESSED** - Loved, Blessed, Called, Sent

Parma-South Presbyterian Church is a community formed by God that celebrates our identity in Christ and as a blessed people we are called to bless others. We are a sent people, a people with a mission. We believe God is already at work within and around us. We are called to engage the people of the world with the proclamation of the Gospel, the gifts of the Holy Spirit and through our fellowship bring about healing, wholeness and justice on Earth. Parma-South Presbyterian Church is a community that is committed to serve others. In response to the needs of our community and world, we give freely of our time, talents and resources. For Jesus said, **“Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. Love your neighbor as yourself.”**

Thus, we are called to pray for and with others, to listen and walk with others in both joy and suffering, to form partnerships with like-minded organizations, to know our neighbors and ministry context and seek God's guidance as we venture out in faith.

**Scripture Reference:** Matthew 5:13-16, Colossians 3:23-24, Matthew 25:34-36, Matthew 28:18-20, Genesis 12:2-3, Luke 4:17-19