

New Creation in Christ Ministry Goals

1) Compassion for people and passion for Christ

Our Church has a God given love, burden, and passion for all people, especially for those people who have not had the privilege of accepting Christ as their Lord and Savior. Espanola Valley in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico is our home. God has given us a burden to reach our city and our surrounding communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through love, dedication and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. We believe that we are a part of God's strategy at this particular place at this particular time (Acts 17:26). Our heart's desire is to be used by God to have a positive, Godly impact on our community. We do not claim to have all the answers. Our desire is simply to build relationship and unity among other ministries in our community and to be a part of God's sovereign plan for spreading the Good News in Espanola, our surrounding communities, our state and the world through prayer and fasting, and moving in obedience when God says to move. Our goal is to prepare and encourage God's people to move into areas of ministry that will be designed to reach individuals of all walks and seasons of life through a variety of approaches and means. Our passion is for the salvation of people and our ministries will do whatever it takes to reach them.

2) Friendliness

We will work hard to be a friendly, loving Church. Our goal is to greet and recognize every person that enters our Church with a hug, a handshake, and friendly smile. We will strive to be a people that are truly and genuinely friendly, both inside the walls of the Church, in the community and in our homes. We will try to make all people feel welcome and comfortable in our Church.

3) Family Orientation

We will be a ministry that cherishes, honors and respects families. We will cherish families by striving to preserve and strengthen marriages and family relationships. We will honor families by publicly acknowledging God's beautiful plan and promises for families through personal examples and testimonies. We will respect families by making an extra effort to reach, teach, mentor and disciple men of God, who will rise up to be Godly fathers, husbands and leaders. We believe that God has established men as the spiritual heads of both the home and the Church and we will strive to enable men of God to lead our Church. As God leads, our Church also desires to providing ministries that will instruct and mentor in areas of parenting, family relationships and marriage. We desire to allow mature believers, who have experienced the trials and victories of raising a family in the ways of the Lord, to share their knowledge and experience in these areas. We believe that our youth (young adults) are valuable and important to the family and to God. Our ministry will work hard to make sure that our youth have a special place in our Church. We will strive to teach them, guide them and show them the love of God in real and practical ways.

4) Love for Children

We will be a Church that expresses our love and appreciation for children. One of our points of emphasis will be excellence in teaching and raising our children up in Godly ways so that when they are older, they will not depart from the truths of God. We will strive to identify and then enable, men and women who have a heart and God given passion to teach and instruct children. We will work hard to provide a fun, exciting and Godly atmosphere for all children, an environment where we can plant the Word of God deep into our children's hearts. We desire to invest our lives into the next generation, into the lives of our children. We believe that God's promises and his righteousness are for us, for our children, and for our children's children. We strongly believe that children are a heritage and a reward from God and therefore have a God given right to life, security, Godly instruction and love.

5) Generous Giving

We will be a Church that teaches and emphasizes good stewardship of everything with which God has entrusted us. We will teach that everything that we have is God's and that whatever he chooses to bless us with, we will be happy to accept. We will teach the principles of sacrificial giving, tithing and of sowing and

reaping. These principles will be taught, practiced by leadership and modeled by our Church itself. We believe that God is a God of abundance and of more than enough. As a Church, we will give 1/10th of our income to ministries and needs outside of our Church walls. Our primary giving will be to the needs of our local community, but we will give anywhere that the Lord leads. We will prayerfully consider all needs that are presented to our ministry and will give when God directs us to do so. We will teach the importance of giving not only financially, but of our time and our talents. As God leads, our Church also desires to providing ministries that will instruct and mentor in areas of stewardship, practical personal financial management, and sound, Godly financial principles.

6) Excellent Financial Stewardship

Our Church will strive to maintain integrity and transparency in all of our financial matters. Our ministry will commit to provide quarterly financial reporting to the whole Church body and will commit to an open books policy to all tithing members who desire to learn more about our finances. We commit to establishing policies and procedures for the processing and handling of all financial matters. We will operate with strict confidentiality regarding our Church member's financial and personal information.

We commit that the finances of our ministry:

- A. Will be managed by generally accepted accounting standards and procedures
- B. Will use quality industry standard accounting software
- C. Will be handled by qualified personnel

II Corinthians 8:20 – “We want to avoid any criticism in the way that we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord, but also in the eyes of men.”

7) Excellence

Our ministry desires to do all things with excellence. We desire and commit to doing our best in everything that we set our hands to do. As our Church strives towards excellence, we believe that we will attract leaders, non-believers, and human resources that desire to be excellent themselves. We believe that being excellent in all things is a product of our Church acting as the salt and light of the earth that Jesus commanded us to be. Our Church does not believe that excellence is simply related to the level of our financial prosperity. We believe that as a Church and as individuals we can do all things with a spirit of excellence irrespective of financial limitations.

8) Personal Relationships

Our Church believes strongly in the value of developing and maintaining personal relationships. We believe that relationships in the Church encourage friendship, support, fellowship and accountability. We will encourage strong personal relationships through our life group fellowships and throughout all of our Church's ministries. Our leadership will try to lead by example in the area of relationships. Our Church will teach the value of relationships that extend beyond the boundaries of the Church into the home and personal lives that we all lead. As a part of our commitment to healthy personal relationships we will discourage and teach against the practice of gossiping, slandering, jealousy, quarreling, factions, anger, outbursts, arrogance and disorder as described in the Word of God.

9) Mentorship

We believe that mentorship is a vital part of our purpose. The leadership and members of our ministry commit to work diligently to mentor individuals who desire to grow and mature in their relationship with God. Mentorship is the development and maintenance of personal relationships, which includes: spending personal time with people, practically demonstrating to people what it means to truly serve God, being open and transparent, meeting people at various places in their walk with God, and seeing people through good times and hard times to a place of spiritual maturity. We see the effectiveness of these types of relationships modeled for us by Jesus Christ in the Word of God which leads us to strongly believe that mentorship will be effective in the development of motivated, Godly servant-leaders that will be pillars in this Church and in our

community. Our Church desires to establish both an informal, and ultimately more formalized mentoring program.

10) Home Based Fellowship Groups

Our Church has a passion and a love for small, personal, home based fellowships which we believe foster and encourage many of the Godly characteristics that we desire to develop in people. We believe that these groups produce disciples “disciplined followers of Christ”, allow for the process of spiritual maturity, help individuals through a personal complete healing process, teach people to trust, assist in understanding the love of Christ through personal relationships, help people identify and exercise their God given spiritual gifts and develop strong leadership qualities. We desire these groups to be places of safety and accountability where people can begin to mature into the individuals God created them to be.

11) Discipleship

Our ministry envisions a formal discipleship program whose goal is to build people up in their knowledge of the Word of God through God inspired, carefully and prayerfully considered personal teaching in a small group environment. We envision a set of formal curriculum being used to guide people along a progressive course of study over a set period of time. The goal of discipleship is to: A) Provide an opportunity for people to grow into spiritual maturity. b) Help people learn how to have a closer, more personal relationship to God. c) Teach people to love God with all their heart, their souls, their minds and strength, to then obey God and all of his commandments, and to then finally live and express the love for others that God desires from all of us. d) Raise people up to be Godly, righteous, holy, loving, serving, disciplined followers of Christ that will make an impact in our city and surrounding communities.

12) Unity in the Body of Christ

Our ministry desires to build bridges of unity between Churches of all denominations in Espanola and in our surrounding communities. Despite the differences that exist between many Christian Churches, we believe there is a greater common bond that holds the Church together. That bond is our belief in the redemptive power and grace of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the salvation that is found in his name alone. We believe that we can partner in many ways with any Church body that teaches this message of salvation, and that teaches the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, authoritative word of God. Our desire is simply to build relationship and unity among other ministries in our community and to be a part of God’s sovereign plan for spreading the Good News, and making a real, lasting impact on the people of Espanola and our surrounding communities. We believe that the bridges and unity that will be built between Churches will begin with prayer and will ultimately have a positive affect our communities in real, tangible and practical ways.

13) High Standards for Leadership and Membership

Our ministry believes strongly in establishing and maintaining high biblical, moral standards and requirements for all of our leadership and Church members. Unlike the disintegrating moral standards of our culture and society, we believe that God’s standards, which we strive to live, are eternal and unchanging. By establishing these high standards for our leaders and members we desire to impart to the people in our Church a high level of commitment to the Church itself, to spiritual growth, and most importantly to God. We believe that all leaders who act as overseers will, be members of the Church, will be in agreement with the vision, purpose and goals of the ministry, will support the concept of small home based fellowships, will be submitted the Godly authority that has been established in the Church and will be living lives that bear the good fruit that Jesus commands us to bear. Our desire is that these high standards will effectively raise the expectations for our entire Church to be more holy, righteous and obedient to God. All standards and requirements are available as part of Church documentation.

14) Integration and Practice of the Great Commission and the Greatest Commandment

Our Church believes that is the personal calling and responsibility of the Church, and of every believer to live out both the Great Commission and the Greatest Commandment given to us by Jesus Christ.

1) The Great Commission: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in

the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” Matthew 28:18

2) The Greatest Commandment: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength,” the second is this, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no commandment greater than these.” Mark 11:29-31

We believe that these two instructions given by Jesus Christ are intertwined and inseparable one from another. We believe that it is impossible attempting to make disciples of all men, if we do not first show them that we love them with the love of the Lord. In the same way, our Church cannot say that we have the love of the Lord for our neighbors and our communities, if we are not presenting to them the Gospel message and teaching them to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Therefore, our Church will strive to lead God’s people to truly be the salt and light of the earth by enabling them to be real life witnesses for Jesus through their everyday Christian walk. We will make a practical, tangible difference in our city and surrounding communities by showing the love of Jesus Christ to people through our loving and selfless, giving, service, and deeds. As we engage in this practical evangelism, we will then work hard to follow up with people who have made a commitment to Christ in order to mentor and disciple them into a place of spiritual maturity.

15) Powerful, Holy Spirit Led Biblical Preaching

Our Church believes that the Bible is the Word of God, written by men and inspired by God through the Holy Spirit. We believe that the Bible is without error and that it was given for teaching, correcting and training up in righteousness so that the people of God can be thoroughly equipped for every good work. Our goal as a ministry is to proclaim the Word of God, in power as led by the Holy Spirit, and in a manner that allows the word to transform us, change us, build us, teach us, correct us and encourage us in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We commit that every scripture based message will be prayerfully considered and prepared with care, study and love and led by the Holy Spirit. Our goal is that as the Word of God is ministered and taught it will be relevant and applicable to all people’s lives. Our desire is that every person that visits our ministry will walk away with something that they can apply to their personal walk with God.

16) God inspired praise and worship

We believe that music expressed through praise and worship towards God is an important part of not only our ministry, but of our own lives. Our music ministry will play a vital role in ushering us into the presence of God. Our desire is that our music would be God inspired, with fresh, exciting songs and dynamic musical expression that moves with sensitivity to the Spirit of God. The goal of praise and worship is to take people into a place of peace and acceptance of what the Holy Spirit is going to accomplish through praise, worship and through the preaching of the Word of God. We desire that all our praise and worship be led by the Holy Spirit so that people are led into a place where they are prepared to receive what God has for them. We desire that through the Holy Spirit, praise and worship will take people’s minds off their situations and problems, to a place where they hear God’s voice and his direction for their lives. When individuals have felt and heard the Holy Spirit they will be prepared to take what they have received and then apply it to their lives.

17) Prayer and Fasting

Our Church believes that faithfully communicating with God through heartfelt prayer is one of the most vital parts of the Christian life. We believe that God’s power and authority are eternal, and that his ability to hear and answer the prayer of faith are the same yesterday, today, and forever. Our belief is that the passionate, fervent prayer of a righteous believer will avail much with God. Out of obedience to the Word of God our Church will teach God’s people to pray faithfully, without doubt and with a heart that has forgiven all offenses. Our desire is to teach God’s people to ask God to be a part of every aspect of their lives, to seek God and his truths will all their hearts, and to knock on heaven’s door seeking closer relationship with God. Our goal is teach God’s people to bring all prayers and petitions before God, with thanksgiving, believing in their hearts that God exists, and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Our Church will work to develop leaders who model a life of effective prayer. Fasting as part of a regular lifestyle of prayer will be taught and practiced by our Church leadership. We believe that fasting as an act of consecration and dedication inspires powerful and focused prayer that moves God’s heart.