



## Long-Range Planning

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Mark your calendars! On February 18, right after our worship service, we will have a delicious brunch and congregational meeting in the fellowship hall! This gathering is being sponsored by our Long-Range Planning committee, and the purpose is to get feedback concerning the core values and future directions of our church.

One thing of which we are certain is this: if this church is going to effectively witness to our Lord Jesus Christ, we must first seek God's guidance throughout the process. Therefore, in preparation for this event, we have prepared a small packet of information for each family in the church, and for our frequent visitors. The packet contains eleven focus areas such as: **“Develop expanded and innovative programs for children and youth to increase participation.”** We are asking you to pray about these focus areas, and at the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss them in more detail.

Of all the things you could do for the church, we believe that praying for God's guidance in this process is the most important. Proverbs 3:5-6 says: **“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge God, and he will make straight your paths.”** God's wisdom and guidance are essential to the mission of the church, and we trust that God makes that wisdom and guidance available to us through our common faith and petitions. Therefore, we need you to pray for God's guidance for the church every day between now and the 18<sup>th</sup>.

To encourage you in this prayer time, we will send you a brief email devotional message each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Please read each devotional and allow it to guide you into a time of prayer for our church, and our Long-Range Planning process. It is our prayer that not only will this exercise help the church as we seek God's guidance; it will also help you personally to grow spiritually.

God has great plans for this church! We need to collectively discern those plans, and work together in God's grace to bring them to fruition!

Grace and Peace,

*John H. White*

Pastor John White