

Vision answers the questions,
where are we going and
why are we going there?

A strategic plan answers the questions,
how are you going to get there, and
what resources are needed.

Vision
Redeemer is a church planting movement, committed to multiplying medium-sized congregations in Central Virginia, which share the same DNA. We believe in fixed theology, flexible methodology, depending on the people being served:

What is our DNA?

1. Gospel-centered theology
systematic and Biblical theology work together
2. Christ-centered preaching
taking the text to the cross (vs. moralism)
3. Grace-renewal of the heart
people change as grace grips the heart (vs. legalism)
4. Positive attitude toward the community
we are seeking the shalom of the city (vs. us against them)
5. Contextual/missional
ministry must fit the culture and seek to engage it
6. Catholicity of spirit
we will cooperate with other Christians in ministry
7. Integrative ministry
we are equally committed to evangelism, mercy, faith/work integration
8. Commitment to plant churches, here and abroad
9. Discipleship within strong community for burden-bearing, prayer, ministry, one-anothering

Why are we headed for this?

1. Doxological (Motivational) We do all of this for the glory of God, for the sake of the risen Christ, for the honor of his name and kingdom. Our motives are doxological: all done for God's glory. He is worthy of the worship of all people.
2. Philosophical (Rationale) We want to plant these kinds of churches because we believe that these distinctives are Biblical and are needed in our communities and Commonwealth.

Distinctives

WORSHIP:

Because worship adores the excellency of God and is the engine of all of life, we long for worship which radiates the joy of salvation and the awe of God's presence. Worship is Christ-centered with God as the primary audience; it should be culturally relevant, historically rooted, and thoroughly informed by God's Word

TEACHING

We believe instruction from God's word should be Biblically-exegetical, redemptive-historical, winsome, vivid, practical, and Gospel-driven. We want to be warm and inviting to seekers, while strengthening families for future covenantal faithfulness.

NURTURE

We value the unity and diversity of gifts and callings in the body of Christ. We believe the most natural place for personal prayer, accountability, and burden-bearing occurs in small group settings.

SERVICE

Where the community is bleeding the church needs to step in with compassion and concrete acts of mercy. The kingdom of God will advance in word and deed.

WITNESS

We believe the church grows through conversions and personal renewal, as believers live the gospel as a lifestyle and participate with God's program to reach the nations for His Son.

A strategic plan

How should we organize our thinking about the strategic plan?

We are, as is often said publicly, a "sending church". Implicit in this label are these critical elements:

In order to send folks we have to nurture and equip them;

In order to have folks to equip/nurture we need to assimilate them;

In order to have folks to assimilate we need to reach them.

In order to reach them we need to bless them

(whether through deeds of mercy or friendship evangelism)

To summarize:

Bless → Reach → Assimilate → Equip/Nurture → Send

We have two kinds of **Reaching/Blessing** opportunities:

1. Being a good Neighbor

Front door issues: (Assimilation)

Coffee/ Greeters

Foyer handouts/ Book table

Welcome receptions

Parking control

Name tags/ Ushering

CD explaining Redeemer

Website/ Classified

Side door Issues:

Things to do that reach out:

- a) To inform folks we're here:
 - Door hangers/ Goodies bags
 - Surveying needs of neighbors
 - Meet folks at school/ Mail postcards

- b) To bless folks near by:
 - Help elderly/ Rake leaves

Things to do that welcome in:

- a) that educate
 - VBS
 - After school program
 - Blood drive
 - CPR course

- b) that entertain
 - Sunday brunch
 - Welcoming events
 - (Easter egg hunt, spring fling, Halloween alternative)

2. Being a Regional Church

Front Door issues:

- Creating venues for folks to attend:
 - Arts festival
 - Coffee house
 - Music programs
 - Informative seminars (recovery, singles, single parents, self-help)
 - Reading groups

- Address places the city bleeds: (deaconal)
 - Poverty/ Mercy ministries
 - Crisis pregnancy
 - Cooperative ministry with All Nations church