

Looking at God's Plan for MCC Ephesians 2:11-22

I. Where We Have Been

1. We are celebrating 19 years as a church.
2. Dr. Ed Stetzer and wife Donna came to Erie, PA in 1994 as SBC church planters.
 - A. Millcreek Baptist Church gave us the building which is now our Family Life Center.
 - B. It started with a small group of 7 people.
 - C. 1000's of fliers and phone calls went out into Erie.
 - D. We met at McDowell for Easter service for several years.
 - E. Over 60 churches assisted us.
3. MCC was launched on October 1, 1995 with 234 people.
4. We started with 50 charter members.
5. I came to MCC as part of a new ministry of the SBC in October 1997.
6. In 1998 we started two churches on the same day: Lake Pointe and New Hope.
7. Hickory Baptist Church donated their building to us July 1, 1999 (bought for \$1), and we later sold it to assist in building the sanctuary.
8. Our first worship service in this sanctuary was in October 2001.
9. We became debt free in 2010.
10. By God's grace we are standing on a lot of shoulders.

II. Where We Are Now

1. Financial Update

GENERAL FUND	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
YTD: 9/1/13 through 8/31/14	\$622,574	\$603,876
2. Number of covenant members: 243
3. Average attendance on Sundays: 450
4. Met our budget this year and formed a Financial Team
5. We saw 14 people be baptized.
6. We are now simplifying and refocusing

III. Where We Believe God Is Taking Us

1. Keeping the end goal in mind
2. Focus on continual movement in transformation
 - A. Purpose - Know-Treasure-Make Known
 - B. Progression - (4 M's) Membership, Maturity, Ministry, and Multiplying
 - C. Process - Sunday Mornings, Small Groups, Serving Opportunities, and Sharing the Gospel

Looking at God's Plan for MCC

Ephesians 2:11-22

- i. We will developing successes, wins, faithfulness, and celebrations in every ministry area.
- ii. We will ask all our Covenant Members to recommit to membership.
- iii. All MCC small group leaders are asked to be shepherds of the vision and people.
- iv. Small groups will be asked to be more active together in serving others by "adopting" one of our overseas or community ministries.
- v. Small groups /individuals will be asked to adopt ministries other than the MCC Supported Ministries, or we will seek to fit new ministry ideas into our MCC supported ministries. (MCC supported - We will promote, support financially, and serve.)

ERIE

1. Inner City Ministry
 - ~Overflow Shelter/Sunday Suppers
 - ~City Mission
 - ~Second Harvest Food Bank
2. Women's Care Center
3. School Adoptions
 - ~McDowell
 - ~Grover Cleveland
4. Soldiers and Sailors Home

GUATEMALA

1. Go three/four times a year. Trips will be on church calendar.
2. Future Plans:
 - ~ Construct Church building and provide clean water (\$20,000)
 - ~ Equip pastors and people.

Faith Sheet

Transformation Verse (*September*) – *Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”*

John 10:27

Main Points: God’s faithfulness is easy to see looking backwards and can be enjoyed as we meditate on what He is doing now. Looking forward, we will see God be faithful in ways we cannot even think of or imagine.

#1- Reviewing this Past Sunday Looking at God’s Plan for MCC Ephesians 2:11-22

1. Read Ephesians 2:11-22. Discuss with someone.
2. How can you/we better share God’s story at MCC?
3. What is the difference in a person’s spiritual life in choosing to be accountable to others or refusing to be accountable to others?
4. Why is being out in the open about our love for Christ and commitment to His people important?
5. Discuss and pray over where God may be taking MCC and what your part may be.

2- Preparing for Next Sunday Exodus 10:1-6

1. Read Exodus 10:1-6.
2. According to verse 2, why has God hardened Pharaoh’s and his servants’ hearts?
3. What stories about your relationship with God have you been sharing with those under you in the faith?
4. What are your fears in discipling another person?
5. What strengths/gifts/passions has God given you that could be used to see someone grow closer to Christ?
6. Does your life ultimately model one that is focused on growing another person in Christ?
7. Pray that God will give you a passion for discipling others and seeing the coming generations know who God is.