

TRANSITION TO THE NEXT GENERATION AT FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2011-2031

Draft as of February 26, 2011

Commitments We Wish to Preserve

1. Reformed Catholicism (as opposed to either Reformed Fundamentalism or a more generic Evangelicalism): *reformata sed semper reformanda*; an openness to new light from Holy Scripture changing our thinking or practice. A willingness to be counter-cultural.
2. Faithfulness to Lord's Day Worship morning and evening and to a Service of Corporate Prayer. A commitment to worship rather than a service structured for unbelievers.
3. Liturgical Seriousness; Weekly Communion; Music that rises to the standard of the best in the Christian Tradition
4. Deep Exposition of Holy Scripture as the foundation of preaching and teaching
5. Emphasis on the Christian Family as a Primary Means of Salvation and the enlargement of the kingdom of God in the world
6. Christian Education as an important part of the nurture of covenant children
7. Mission Focus: an interest demonstrated in prayer and financial support for ministries elsewhere in the country and the world
8. Generosity in diaconal ministry to the needy
9. The practice of Male Headship (and so the cultivation of the grace of leadership among the church's men)
10. The continued cultivation of men for the Christian ministry
11. The cherishing and exploiting of the gifts of women and the appreciation and support of their ministries
12. Youth Ministry
13. The Practice of Hospitality
14. Presbytery and General Assembly Focus
15. The Practice of Church Discipline
16. A commitment to Sunday School
17. The encouragement of Christian ministerial entrepreneurship (as before in the establishment of Care Net, Covenant High School, and Resurrection Presbyterian Church)
18. Joyful obedience: serious discipleship vs. nominal commitment.
19. A focus on the life of the church as well as that of the individual believer.

Developments Needing to be Fostered

1. A more public focus on evangelism
2. The elimination of the church's debt as a means of increasing her investment in the kingdom of God
3. The cultivation of the gifts and graces (and active participation in the church's ministry) of our younger men: more active discipleship
4. Diaconal entrepreneurship
5. Communication: use of social media to extend the ministry