

**January 31, 2016**  
**Northwest Tampa Church of Christ**  
**5 Year Plan Outline**

The leadership of the Northwest Tampa Church of Christ has prepared a 5 year strategic plan for growth. The spiritual growth of the church here in Tampa is of the utmost importance. We are called to reach the lost, to make disciples, to baptize, and to spread the boundaries of the Kingdom. This plan helps us define how the church will do this.

**The Vision for the Church**

The vision is two-fold. We want to focus on SPIRITUAL GROWTH and then PHYSICAL GROWTH.

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH:**

Romans 12:11 says “Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.” We want to grow spiritually in these ways:

- Individually
- Body (Church family)
- Community

How do we achieve this? We have identified 5 ways we will strive to grow spiritually:

I. Personal Responsibility

A. Be present - be in attendance, be aware, be active

B. Be involved

1. Give of your time

2. Give of your talent

3. Give of your treasure

**4. QUESTION: DO you give of your time, of your talents, and of your treasure to God first, or do you give Him what is leftover? How can you improve?**

II. Education and Training

A. We want to focus on personal development, making each of us the best version of ourselves we can be for God

**QUESTION: What kind of things are you doing for your**

**own personal spiritual development today? Share with the group. Could you do better with your prayer life?**

B. We want to increase class variety and offerings

C. We want to offer the best children's classes we can offer

### III. Outreach

A. This starts with US - not just the elders, the deacons, the paid staff, but all of us together

**QUESTION: How many of you know people who are outside of Christ? Talk about people you know who you can reach out to over the next few weeks and how you can do it. Give first names and spend time praying over these people if you'd like.**

B. We want to continue to reach out to the youth, the teenagers

C. We want to continue to offer the community events we have been doing, but add not only more events, but add more spiritual purpose them.

D. We want to start offering more in the way of support groups (cancer support, griefshare, divorce care, etc.)

**QUESTION: What areas of support could we offer to reach people outside of Christ? Share ideas.**

### IV. Spanish Ministry

A. We want to reach out the growing Hispanic population of Tampa

B. We want to eventually be able to offer them their own space due to growth

C. We want to look to hire a Spanish-speaking minister to be most effective

**QUESTION: How does the Spanish ministry at Northwest inspire you? What could you do to encourage our Spanish ministry?**

### V. Increased Membership

A. We want Christians when they are looking for a church, to want to come here

B. We want to grow by conversions, new members, new Christians

**QUESTION: Do you know someone in the area that has stopped attending services for one reason or another? Is there something you can do to reach out to them?**

We ask you finally - to BE PREPARED

- For what God will do
- To embrace change as we move forward. The scriptures will never be compromised, but our traditions and programs may.

**QUESTION: Do you embrace change, or is change complicated for you?**

- For God's blessings. When we give to God, when we work for God, when we give our all for God, be prepared for His blessings

**QUESTION: How do you see God blessing us when we put God first and commit to this vision?**

- For stronger relationships

Finally - be prepared for Facility Expansion.

#### PHYSICAL GROWTH:

##### Where we are now

300 members  
14 classrooms  
Limited fellowship facilities  
Limited lobby/gathering spaces  
Limited restroom facilities  
390 seat auditorium capacity

##### Where we want to go

500+ members  
More classrooms  
Expanded fellowship area  
Greater gathering spaces  
More restroom facilities  
600+ seat auditorium capacity

The leadership has decided that the best way to combat all the above areas is to focus on building a Family Life Center, which will house a new kitchen, classroom spaces, fellowship spaces, and activity spaces, with increased restroom facilities.

We will lay out a campaign strategy over the next year. Hopefully, late this year, and early next year, we will be able begin focusing monetary support towards this dream, which will lead us on a journey of physical growth as well.

This will consist of a defined campaign start and stop date. Over the course of preparing to build this family life center, we may have to step into uncharted territory.

We will at some point, with the spiritual growth plan in place, find ourselves in need of more space to meet for worship. We expect this to take us on a path of having to go to two services for a period of time. (This is part of the “be prepared to embrace change” mentioned earlier.)

The elders, the ministers, and the deacons have been prayerfully discussing this plan for the greater part of 6 months now, and to some degree, for many years. We ask you to be in prayer over this 5 year plan. We ask you to help us in our spiritual and physical growth.