

*North Central California Presbytery,
disciples of Christ called to*

Gather in Love - Equip to Serve - Inspire Transformation

*Embodying a commitment to gospel values of
spiritual growth, community, hospitality, radical love,
bold witness, outreach, justice, equity*

Recently, the NCCP Council engaged in a day-long retreat to better ascertain what is currently working well within our new presbytery, what more is needed as we seek to thrive and what might be important next steps as we seek to be the body of Christ in challenging times. Below are highlights of the day, along with subsequent reflections:

Celebrations: What is going well?

- Formation of New Ministry Initiatives Committee and the launching of three New Worshipping Communities: Iama Yoga, Intercultural Mosaics, Casas de Paz
- Grants given to congregations to enhance capacity for programming, emergency response, building/technology improvements during pandemic and beyond
- May 2022 Justice Conference focus on environmental stewardship and earth care and an increased number of Earth Care Congregations
- Successful completion of filling all vacant presbytery staff positions
- Sale of former presbytery offices and successful move to new location at Carmichael Presbyterian Church
- Local congregations significantly expanding food ministries with vulnerable populations and improving outreach into local communities
- Offering on-line programs, educational resources, clergy cohorts, communication and improved technological capacity for Presbytery meetings

Growing Edge: What more is needed?

- Trainings for elders, deacons and presbytery committee members to better equip them for effective leadership in changing times
- Strengthen ties between congregations and deepen sense of “being one” as NCCP
- Identify and engage more leaders from the southern tier of our presbytery – those who were formerly in Stockton Presbytery
- Provide educational and interpretive programs/activities as the religious, political, social landscape changes
- Bring a voice of faith, courage, love and justice to these challenging times

- Explore creative funding sources for congregations with aging membership and buildings

Next Steps:

- “Congregational Engagement Process Summer 2022,” inviting all congregations to respond to prompting questions to help identify key programmatic and financial priorities of NCCP
- Full financial assessment with an eye toward creative, bold, sustainable spending, balanced budget, review of distribution of Cordova and other legacy funds
- Continue restructure of presbytery to better meet needs of congregations, pastors and the communities they serve

Thank you for continuing to pray for Council members, all those who serve in leadership and the staff of North Central California Presbytery. Together we are striving to be faithful, bold, creative and spirit-led as we move into the future. If you or someone you know feels called to participate in leadership for 2023, please complete and return the form below. A variety of gifts, perspective and skills are valued and needed!

<https://forms.gle/wnWpawRxbpPsHcu29>

Thanks be to God for the “new thing” in which we are participating and the many opportunities that lie before us