



Highland Community Church

'Go out into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor, lame, blind, and crippled...' Luke 14:21b

Highland Community Church Vision Statement

By Rob Strickland - Pastor of Highland Community Church - 2009

Vision Layout

Motto - Highland pursues to be the church, not build the church.

(Matthew 16:18)

Highland is a collective of people surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus and being perfected through the studying of God's Word. As we focus on being the church by living our lives set apart, like a city on a hill, growing into the likeness of Jesus, we entrust the Lord to build His church.

Three Parts to Our Vision

Outreach to the Poor	Unify the Body of Christ	Community Development
Share and live out the gospel together through outreach and discipleship.	Bring the Body of Christ together on Common Ground, like serving the poor.	Develop and Strengthen the Christian Community within our church.
Raise Up Indigenous Leaders within the Church.	Grow and serve in one accord bringing transformation to our city.	Rebuild a healthy collective of neighbors within North Highland.

The following section entails our plan in detail.

Part One: Highland is driven by outreach to the poor for the purposes of:

- Bringing people to the saving knowledge of Jesus
- Engaging People in the discipleship process
- Raising up indigenous leadership
- Community development- through discipleship and raising the community standard of living

Part Two: Highland will serve as a venue for the body of Christ to unite the church on common Biblical purposes through:

- 2nd Chance Resource Center
- Chicken and Rice Ministries
- Mission Meals
- Community Missions Projects

Part Three: Community Development

Our church will engage our community in acts of compassion and acts of service in order to proclaim the Kingdom of God and glorify Christ. Community development works out into two-spheres:

1. The Inner-sphere includes the development of Christian Community within our church. This sphere focuses on people within our church or community who have surrendered to Jesus. In this sphere, those who are maturing in Christ will continue to disciple those who surrender to Christ. We will continue to do this through ministry teams, through our church services, through Bible studies, and through missional projects. We do this by setting an atmosphere of grace upon a foundation of the solid truth of Scripture.
2. The Outer-sphere is to improve the quality of this community. It involves going out into these streets and proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is here, and that we will not let the practice of wickedness go unchecked. Through community watch programs, landlord teams and good “neighboring”, we will uphold higher standards for our community. We’re going to clean up these streets and rebuild a healthier standard of community here, and restore the homes in our community. We’re going to clean this place up so that people may see the glory of the Lord manifest itself from within a broken people and a restored community.

Community Development is our approach to dealing with homelessness. From the beginning, our church has sought after and embraced the homeless community. But at the same time, we at Highland have never made homelessness our cause; the gospel of Jesus Christ and the advancement of His Kingdom is our cause. So, as we have embraced the homeless community, it's been to love them as people, not as our cause. The fact is that homelessness will always be an issue because it is the result of sin. Our church's position is that those on our streets can come to know and serve Jesus just as you and I have; they're no less worthy. Our church has set up camp to serve the gospel and disciple the whole community, homeless included, here in North Highland.

Finally, this brings me to the long-term goal - that Christians in our community and city unite, cutting off the resources of the wicked. I want to see the light of Christ lifted high, so that it would consume darkness. The by-product becomes a tighter-knit community of people pushing out those who push evil agendas upon our neighbors, which is cultivating faithfulness.