

At the March 23, 2010 meeting of Elizabeth Presbytery, Interim Executive Presbyter Greg Albert shared his dream for the Presbytery in a sermon, "I Have a Dream, too." At the end of his sermon, he asked the congregants to write on one side of a card their dream for the Presbytery and on the other side their dream for their congregation. The responses were as follows, in no particular order.

## Commissioners' Dreams for their Congregation

- To continue to expand in community development.
- More people in the church to go on mission trips.
- That my congregation will be filled with the spirit of God – want to know him more – want God and his church to be more a part of their lives.
- More from country club fellowship where opposing one another as goal into a Christ centered fellowship of disciples laying down their lives for others and gospel.
- More focus on mission work that the discernment of his word.
- May Jesus come back into our hearts and his, and only his will be done!
- That the member would desire to be the peacemakers in their lives and in the church and in our community.
- That we will connect with the community.
- That congregations be filled with God's spirit, pews filled with God's people, all spreading God's love in Jesus.
- That His church would return to the supremacy of the Holy word of God as found in scriptures. Because faith, saving faith only comes in His word believed and not in the doctrines of men!
- **Ephesians 4:12-16** (12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. )
- To find our way into the futures so we can spread into the surrounding communities and expand our worship and mission.
- That my church will have a vision of embracing the entire world of reaching out to others in the world, to feed and clothe them, that one day we will all be one in Christ.
- To bring us all closer as we search for a new minister, to strengthen our church as it has been strengthened by our wonderful pastor has for us these many years.
- Peace and Unity within the congregation.
- To be able to grow so that we can support ourselves – A balanced budget without using reserves/endowments, so that we can help more in the world.
- To work closely in mission with all local houses of worship (Christian, Jewish) in mission to those in need.

- Tolerance of differing views.
- To embody the radical hospitality of Jesus.
- To develop a passion and a determination to follow Christ's teachings.
- To become more open and affirming to all God's children in our community.
- Focus on God's mission and what pleases God and not what makes me feel good.
- Spiritually vital community transformed by Christ, renewed by Holy Spirit, transforming lives, the community and world so kingdom of God is near.
- Figure out how to increase mission participation. An hour of worship some Sunday mornings is not enough.
- That our congregation will come to a point of wanting to reach out to the community.
- To reach out as a community filled of the love and power of the spirit.
- That we can become one people diverse, but worshipping and working together. One congregation feeling comfortable with different cultures and languages.
- To sense and know the movement of the Holy Spirit as we live out our call to be God's people in all that we do as a congregation.
- That our church would continue to stand for/with Christ alone.
- To be one in Christ's service without bickering to keep a pastor longer than 2 years.
- To feel God's presence in a way that makes us want to shout it out.
- To have pastors teach the gospel of grace. To have people experience God's judgment and forgiveness on the cross of Christ.
- Peace, healing and unity.
- That it will be a loving community in which people can draw close to God.
- That we can increase our sense of community for each other - really be there of each other- turn up the heat on our love and caring so we'll be nurtured to go forth and serve and that others will know we are Christians by our love.
- To be a community of faith for all with no club house politics.
- Not just to trust Jesus but to live with the faith of Jesus.
- To bring Christ's caring to every member of our body and into the neighbor hands.
- That my congregation, specifically our session, could hear and understand the sermon you preached. That we would be able to put the "mission" into practice.
- That we fulfill the expectations of God who has kept us open in spite of ourselves.
- A gathering of people for healing and justice, following Jesus Christ, learning his way together, sent into the world with the good news of God's love, peace and joy.
- Encourage younger members to become leaders as reach out in love to community, people in need- financially, emotionally, spiritually.
- Feed and guide the homeless, guide those mentally ill, take them out of the cold. Have a church filled with children and youth.
- Stronger youth presence and involvement.
- That Christ is back in the governance of the church.

- Grow in the spirit and in Jesus – turn outward in service - as well as feed His people within our congregation.
- To start a contemporary worship service that reaches a generation that is missing the 20's – 30's young adults.
- Church members discovering where their passion for healing in Christ name meets a hurt in their world. Where personal calling becomes joyful faith in action, not religion, but life style.
- A community of deep vital faith in the risen Christ, who learn, serve, worship and laugh. Work for the transformation of people's hearts of experience God's love.
- Church of reconciliation.
- Harmony and peace within our congregation. A search for a new Pastor that will bring smiles to all.
- That our congregation opens their hearts to the differences of those who worship with us; rich, poor, black, white, multicultural, sick, gay, those with addictions.
- Church as movement organizing for social justice and equity (taxes in NJ are oppressive PHARAOH).
- To have everyone be happy to bring back those who have lost sight of the Lord in their lives.
- Change our focus from inward looking to outward looking and to encourage everyone to share God's love in their world.
- I dream of a partnership with our sister church in Africa, and that we can walk together in following Christ. I want our congregation to recognize that our brothers and sisters have a lot to teach us.
- A place of spiritual feeding that welcomes all people.
- That our church will become contemporary with their music to bring more youth and revitalize.
- That its passion for worship at the Living God will transform those within its wall and those without.
- That our congregation will respect one another and listen for God's direction discerning the spirit's will for us.
- Your sermon was right on! I dream we become more accepting of others, to go out of the church building, to get close to others, to discover the needs of neighbors.
- To do good, all the time.
- That we might grow and flourish us a multi racial church where all feel welcome and all are equipped to serve.
- Engage in peacemaking, develop techniques and a heart for right relationships.
- That the love and respect we profess for each other at Sunday worship becomes the reality of how we deal with everyone all 7 days a week.
- To bring younger people into the church and into its leadership.
- To bring the saving grace of Jesus into the community. To have worship in coffee shops where the people are.

- Introduce people to Jesus.
- A church that is scriptural and ready for God's work.
- To reach every student (Grade 6-12) in the Somerset Hills with the Good News of Jesus Christ, His Grace, and Love!
- The youth (the future) and the seniors (the past) and those in between would become the church of the present (now) communicating, connecting, relating to one another.
- To grow so in Christ's love for one another that it spills out into the world.
- Greater participation from all members- for all members to have a greater "stake" in overall church vision.
- The hope to bring vital and committed members so that we might continue our outreach and mission to the community.
- That our whole congregation will get along.
- That it heals and become one through our Lord.
- To grow so that more people can hear the word of God.
- To continue to grow in mission and spirituality in our love for Christ.
- "Multicultural Ministry" Indonesian Fellowship more integrated with the church.
- A Christ centered congregation free from strife. A unified pastoral staff. A light to our community and beyond.
- Exteriorize God to everyone outside of the "church".
- To move outside our walls to touch and inspired those anonymous souls wanting to be inspired and infused in new and different ways like I was moved to light.
- That the church may fall in love with God all over again and know that God as a calling, leading, faithful God who is doing a new thing with and through them!
- For a strong sense of mission to meet needs of our community. Youth and adults who have lost their direction. Help those who need recovery to reach God's word. We can do this if we understand that there is a need.
- That the reputation the congregation carries in the community as a caring community may be more fully realized.
- That we have more children for Sunday School.
- Full integration of Kenyan immigrants with the "American" part of the congregation.
- Engage in partnership in our community.
- Equipping and enabling disciples to equip and enable disciples to the last and the least.
- Find a vibrant new pastor. Be a force in our community. Grow our congregation.
- To more effectively help presbytery be more in tune to Christ's mission and outreach to the world, near and far.
- Reconciliation. Peace. A new vision.
- Humbly of spirit and a universal understanding of God's presence everywhere.