

Introduction Slide

Greetings Butler Church, this short presentation is to show you some of the new ministry ideas that are being developed here at Butler. In the slides that follow are ideas that have been floating around Butler church to help us grab ahold of a vision and begin to make an impact here in SE Fresno. Anything you see in this presentation is simply to start the dialogue. We will certainly not do all of these, and we are not even committed to do any of them if we decide the Spirit is leading in another direction. I will provide a basic outline of what a ministry *could* look like, but am intentionally trying to not define the process too much so that through collaboration we can decide the best road to take for our ministry. Ideally, we would like you to watch this with other members of Butler church and then dialogue through what you think. We will allow space for several weeks of dialogue before we begin to narrow down our results. Pay attention to announcements in the coming weeks that will be aimed at these ministries. Any ministry that is started at Butler church should ultimately answer the question, "How are we, be it personally, as unique congregations, and as Butler church as a whole, going to be in and among southeast Fresno? How will we be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around us? Please listen to the follow presentation and begin to process how you see the Spirit leading.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery officially launched July 16, after a year of planning and preparation. With a core leadership group in place, there is a huge area of need filled, but there are still some opportunities to volunteer and make this program a success. First and foremost, we are interested in making a prayer team for this ministry. We need people to pray for this ministry not only throughout the week, but would love for a group of people to spend time in prayer each Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. while this ministry is meeting on our campus. Individuals or families can sign up for a time slot that they will set aside each week to pray for the success of this ministry and the transformation of lives for the glory of Jesus. There are also needs in serving food and preparing a welcoming environment for our guests, set up and clean up opportunities, and spots available to help within the program itself (one of the biggest needs is in the children's ministry). If you are interested please contact Steve and Debbie Weiler for more information on how you can help, or Cherie Musgrave for the children's program.

Fresno Pacific University

With Fresno Pacific University next door, and using our facilities every week, several people have expressed an interest in developing a strong ministry connection with FPU. This has several possibilities including a Sunday school group, a midweek small group, and an 'adopt a student' program, giving them a 'home away from home' to do their laundry, enjoy a home cooked meal, a quiet place to study, and a safe place to build community and feel at home. There is also interest from the Office of Spiritual Development on the FPU campus to help in whatever way they can. We have been invited to participate in their freshman only orientation chapels, their weekly chapel services, and to provide other opportunities in which to engage the students. School starts Monday August 23 and we are interested in developing a core group of people of

all ages that are interested in helping launch a ministry to FPU students. If interested please contact Pastor Scott or Justin Hiebert.

Community Garden

Since Butler first acquired the land across the street, there has been a great desire to see it used for the glory of God. One possibility would be to develop a community garden on the lot and have produce available for community members. This has several options as you can see, depending on whether we want to rent plots, give food away for free, sell it cheaply, provide eggs through a chicken coop, or other garden options like flowers or fruit trees. This would be a real chance to not only use the land, but to use it as a visible statement of Butler's commitment to serve and love. If interested, please contact Justin Hiebert, Michelle Pauls, or Michael Kunz.

Fitness Club

A Butler Fitness Club would be designed to not only allow an outreach opportunity but a chance to take care of the bodies that God has given us. We could start a variety of activities such as: walking, running, aerobics, cycling, and so on, as a way to fellowship among all congregations, take care of our bodies, pray over the community, and as a friendly way to invite others to join us here at the church.

Ready and Beyond

We have partnered with Reading and Beyond for awhile now through the Small World Preschool and want to explore the possibility of doing more. They currently operate a tutoring program that we could become involved in. There is also the possibility of starting an after school program to provide not only tutoring, but a safe place for community kids to come after school. There is currently something similar to this being done between Community Food Bank and Mount Olive Church, which models one of many potential options for such a partnership.

Community Food Bank

Our food distribution program through Community Food Bank is currently limited to the first Friday of every month with hopes to increase that frequency. This can be done through more volunteers stepping forward or through other means such as purchasing additional food or operating our own food pantry for food distribution. This would give us great freedom to interact with people and families that come onto our campus and establish deeper relationships with those around us. We could also explore the option of starting another partnership like the Food Bank has with Mount Olive Church if they are interested. Please contact Harold and Helen Ens to explore these ideas.

Single Parents Ministry

There are many in the surrounding community that struggle with being the sole provider for their family. They struggle with raising their kids, having enough money to feed them properly, and still have time to spend with them. What are ways that we can step in and bless them in the name of Jesus? How might a ministry to single parents look?

Other

This is the point where you get to step in and offer your own suggestions. These barely scratch the surface of all the ministry opportunities that we have here at Butler. What are the needs that you identify within the surrounding community that we need to address? What do you want to see as the lived out vision of Butler? Please feel free to make any comments or suggestions to any of the pastoral staff or Justin Hiebert no later than Sunday August 8.