



2010-2012 VÍSIÓN for Disciples United Community Church

This three-year vision was given by God to the DUCC prophets gathered at their Visioning Retreats in the second half of 2009.*

(*accepted unanimously by the Leadership Team of DUCC, and co-created, henceforth, as covenanted, by the friends and members of DUCC gathered on January 23, 2010)

At the center of our life together, we see an open table of Christ's subversive hospitality—a source of nourishment which unites us with each other and the world and invites all persons to experience God's *shalom*—healing and wholeness, peace and justice for all.

This table represents our foundational core value of extravagant hospitality to all who seek it, and especially to those who would call themselves “spiritual orphans,” both the “spiritual but not religious” (seekers) and the disenfranchised (religious refugees). “*We seek to be a seed of hope where there are no strangers!*”

DUCC looks and acts more like a community rather than a church. This community is a sanctuary where people are safe to be themselves. We welcome and affirm persons of all kinds, particularly those affected by “-isms” (women, LGBT, different races and cultures) just as Jesus would. As a safe space, we nurture people with opportunities for spiritual sharing and growth. Children are an essential part of the DUCC community, and we celebrate their full participation in worship. We provide children's programming through education, justice, and social opportunities as well. DUCC is a safe space for children to grow and learn in a progressive and inclusive environment.

We see our round worship table sitting in a physical space we can claim as ours, such as a large open multi-purpose community room that we rent from or partner with another church. Our community is more than a “Saturday night” church; our programs reach out to the community within and without throughout the week and could include a marketplace-style food bank, wellness and health education services (healing services, Reiki, prayer shawls), and support for religious refugees.

An essential part of our reaching out to the community at large involves educating others on who DUCC is and why DUCC is different. We embrace our identity as unapologetically alternative, as providing another, yet just as valid, spiritual path or paradigm. Our words and actions embody a compassionate, inclusive definition of Christian community. We articulate a progressive Christian vision and are a compelling “magnet” for those who need us because the greater Lancaster community knows who we are and what we do. DUCC flourishes in its social action and advocacy for peace and justice issues and especially human rights concerns. We utilize a variety of creative techniques to publicize and share what DUCC offers and to provide visible and simple ways to learn about us, contact us, and visit us.

Our worship continuously changes and invites multiple ways to experience a still-speaking God. Our vigorous and committed progressive community will continually celebrate the personal, spiritual, and artistic gifts of its members and friends through a variety of culturally diverse, highly participatory, Spirit-filled innovative worship opportunities, led by lay and clergy celebrants and upbeat musicians who blend ancient and contemporary resources of chant and praise, drumming and dance!

We see a high commitment covenant Christian community in which all of our members and friends support our community vision by giving generously of their time, talents, and treasures in new, exciting, and creative ways.