



# **State of the Church**

Netherwood Park – Church of Christ

July 15, 2012

# Netherwood Park Church Of Christ Continues Its Commitment To . . .

- ◆ Faithfulness – pursuing Biblical Truths
- ◆ Stability – congregational peace & unity
- ◆ Fiscal responsibility – financial soundness
- ◆ Sense of Family – caring for one another
- ◆ Diversity – respecting/using our talents, skills, knowledge, passions
- ◆ Being active – desire, initiative, dedication
- ◆ Missions – spreading the Gospel
- ◆ Vision – having a plan/goals for future

# We Still Face Challenges . . .

- ◆ Families and marriages under stress
  - financial pressures
  - relationship issues
- ◆ Personal struggles with worldliness
- ◆ Meeting needs of new members
  - starting over in a new congregation
  - building relationships
- ◆ Motivating all to serve (involvement)
- ◆ Fostering individual spiritual growth

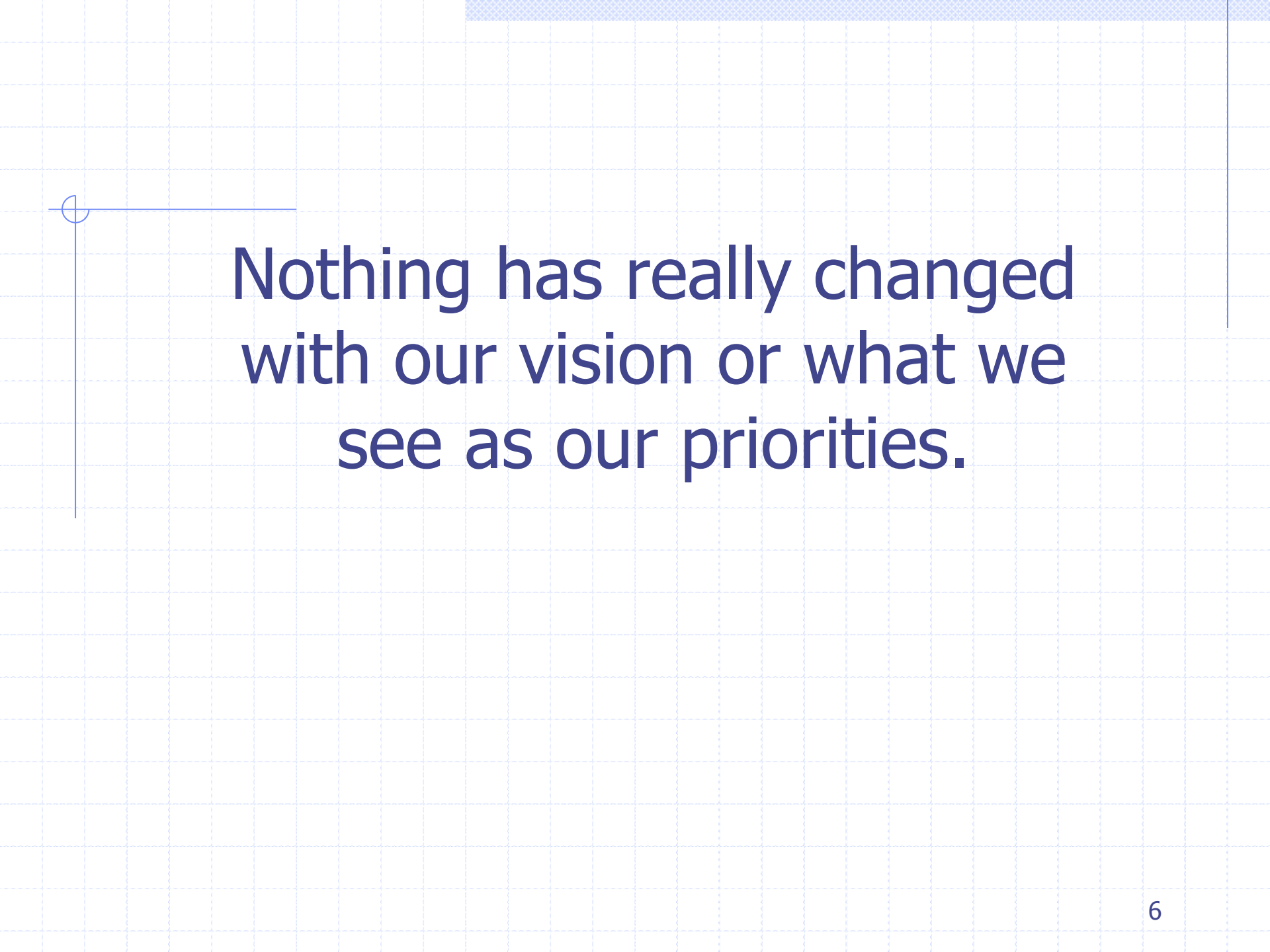
# . . . But, We Have A Shared Vision

“To make, foster and grow  
Disciples of Jesus Christ”

- ◆ Where a true disciple:
  - Loves the Lord – commitment
  - Learns from the Lord – studies
  - Follows the examples of the Lord – pattern
  - Serves the Lord – good works
- ◆ We want each member to be a true disciple of Jesus Christ

# How Shall We Accomplish This?

- ◆ By setting examples and raising expectation in 7 key areas:
  - daily personal prayer life
  - daily personal Bible study
  - attending congregational worship every week
  - attending Bible class every Sunday
  - fellowshiping brethren (e.g., small groups)
  - involvement in a personal ministry of service
  - mentoring and being mentored for growth



**Nothing has really changed  
with our vision or what we  
see as our priorities.**

# Results From FY 2012

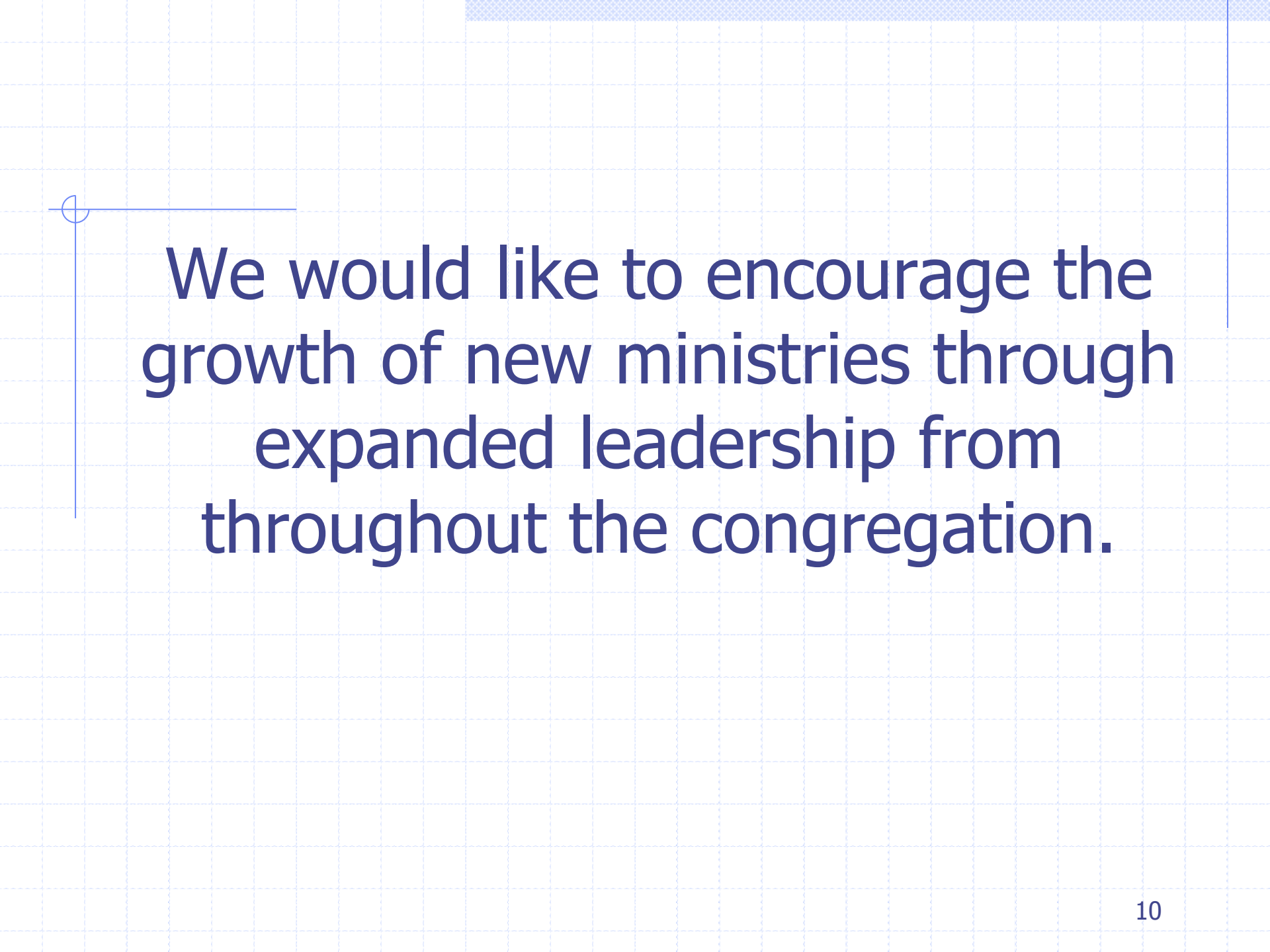
- ◆ Elders did not meet all of the previous year plans
  - Elders' focus was on member issues, prayer and Bible study
- ◆ There were plans which were met
  - Small group growth
  - Daily prayer and Bible reading
  - Small group questions
  - Communication – quarterly updates and new member meetings
  - Adult education restructuring

It has been noted that much of Netherwood's success in the past year is not centered on the work of the elders and ministers.



# Other Highlights From FY 2012

- ◆ Home & Yard Ministry
- ◆ Wednesday Night Meals
- ◆ Broad Based Incorporation of New Members:
  - Leading of worship
  - Classroom teaching
  - Fellowship activities
  - Many other ministries



We would like to encourage the growth of new ministries through expanded leadership from throughout the congregation.

# Possible New Ministries Or Areas Needing Additional Leadership

## ◆ Inreach

- Pre-school education renovation
- Support for parents
- Mentoring program
- 21<sup>st</sup> century communication tools
- Awareness about seven key activities (from 20/20 vision)
- Measure and report progress on various activities and ministries

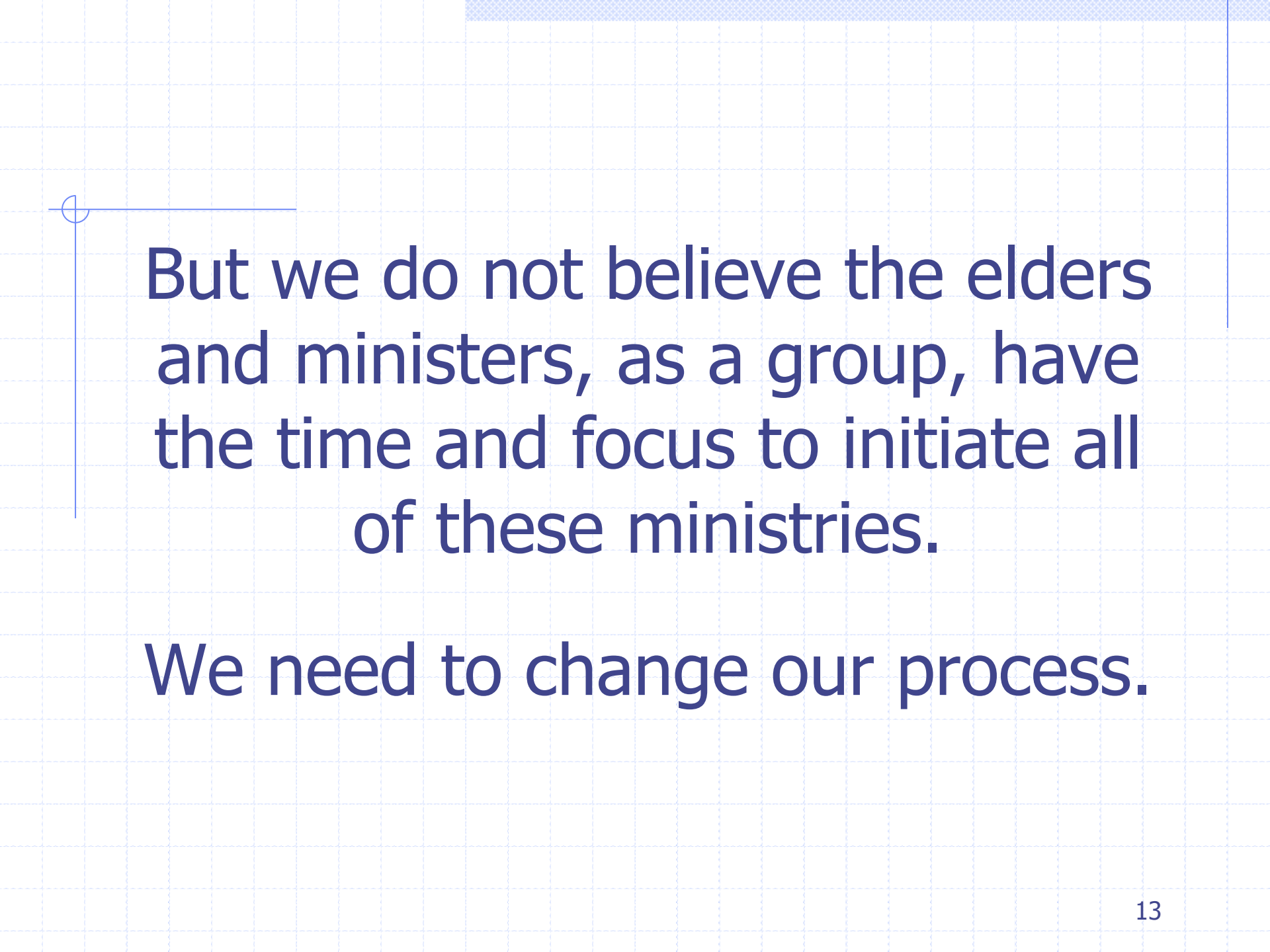
# Possible New Ministries Or Areas Needing Additional Leadership

## ◆ Outreach

- Outreach Sundays
- Personal evangelism training
- New initiatives for outreach

## ◆ Upreach

- Train those who serve in congregational worship



But we do not believe the elders and ministers, as a group, have the time and focus to initiate all of these ministries.

We need to change our process.

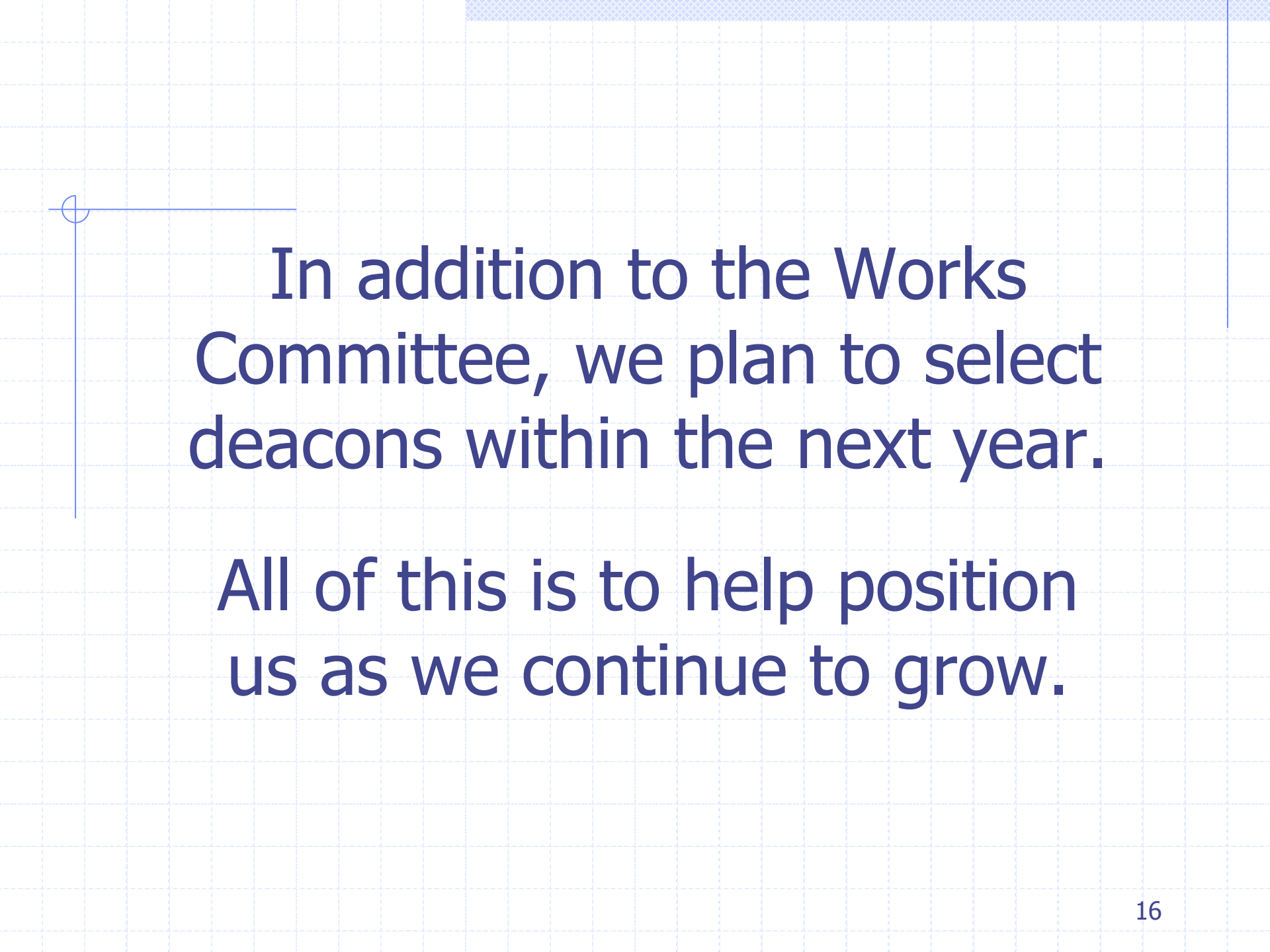
# Works Committee

## ◆ Goals for the committee

- Look for people to lead ministries generally as directed by elders
- Ministries are in alignment with 20/20 vision

# Works Committee

- ◆ Make up of the committee
  - Selected by elders
  - Will include Scot Ruska and Dave Wilkins
  - Long-time and recent members
  - Men and women
  - Varying ages



In addition to the Works Committee, we plan to select deacons within the next year.

All of this is to help position us as we continue to grow.



# Congregational Growth

## ◆ Historical Growth

- Sunday AM Worship up 15%
- Sunday Class up 14%
- Contribution up 19%

## ◆ About Our Growth

- 80% of Auditorium Capacity
- Not just from Montgomery
- Membership up more than attendance
- Growth has plateaued

# Options To Remove Barriers To Growth

- ◆ Do nothing
- ◆ Two concurrent services
- ◆ Add a video feed to the gym or somewhere else
- ◆ Add a second Sunday AM worship service
  - Identical in style
  - Beginning early in 2013

# Budget – Sources Of Income

- ◆ Your generous giving – \$13,226/week avg YTD
  - Original FY 2012 budget was \$11,452/week
  - Raised to \$12,107/week
  - Thriving despite difficult economic times
  - The only thing which seems to hold us back is opportunity to give

# Budget – Sources Of Income

- ◆ Other income – \$25,500 for parking/bldg use
- ◆ Proposed Budget FY 2013 – \$13,627/week
  - 3.0% over weekly giving & 5.0% over year
  - New year has 53 Sundays

# Budget – Where The Money Goes

	FY 11-12		FY 12-13	
Salaries	277,953	45.0%	308,687	41.3%
Facilities	97,350	15.8%	104,500	14.0%
Missions	141,850	23.0%	179,319	24.0%
Benevolence	33,550	5.4%	62,500	8.4%
In-Reach	22,085	3.6%	38,000	5.1%
Out-Reach	9,350	1.5%	9,150	1.2%
Education	13,350	2.2%	20,525	2.7%
General	22,500	3.5%	25,050	3.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>617,988</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>747,731</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# Budget – Expenses & Things To Note

## ◆ Items Increased During the Year

- African Christian College
- Albuquerque Christian Children's Home
- Student Center
- Each raised \$800/month

## ◆ Benevolence – Up 86% to \$28,950

- External and internal needs both remain high
- Food pantry receives individual member funding - \$8,655 last year

# Budget – Expenses & Things To Note

## ◆ Missions – Up 26% to \$37,469

- Wayne Sharp work in South Dakota - \$8,400
- Fund for Swaziland orphans receives individual funding - \$8,494 last year

## ◆ Other Increases Over Prior Budget

- Ladies' Retreat - \$7,975
- Marriage Seminar - \$7,125
- Staffing for Growth - \$25,000

# Want To Know More?

- ◆ This eldership is committed to transparency in the handling of money.
- ◆ The detailed budget is always posted.
  - Including salary information
- ◆ Presentation will be posted on Netherwood's website
- ◆ We are always available to answer any questions you may have.



# Removing The Barriers to Growth

- ◆ Vision of church remains the same.
- ◆ The talent of the church must be fully utilized.
- ◆ Must not limit God's growth
  - Additional leadership
  - Additional ministries
  - Growth in attendance
  - Staffing for growth



**God Has Given Us An Opportunity**