

Strategic Plan for 2023

Restoration Christian Community of Allegan (RCCA) is a Christian fellowship in Allegan, Michigan. We use Acts 2 as the blueprint for the structure of the church. Our commitment is the great commission found in Matthew 28:16-20 to make disciples and preach the gospel of the Kingdom of God.

History – RCCA was founded in October 2017 as a house church with a deep desire to have The Holy Spirit move amid the congregation with scriptural balance. We have seen God move in the lives of our people as they receive discipleship from the Bible and apply its principals. We have sent out a missionary family to Texas and continue to be a witness to the community at large. God has blessed us over the years, and we have seen healings, and changed lives.

Vision for the future – As we look at the local community at large we see several needs that need to be addressed. Allegan is a city of 5,000 and the surrounding cities comprise a complex mixture of needs that are not being addressed. They are as follows:

- *A lack of intercessory prayer and cooperation among the churches.*
- *A lack of evangelism in the community.*
- *Lack of understanding and application of a Biblical worldview.*
- *Homelessness.*
- *A need for Youth outreach and discipleship.*
- *A failing school system.*
- *Drugs/Crime*
- *Civil Government out of control.*

In response to the above needs, we as a fellowship are responding with a bold plan to fulfill the Great Commission not only in our city, but in the world. This will require a commitment in prayer, time, and money. It will also require a change in the home church fellowship as a Sunday morning event to weekly small group fellowships. This flexibility means that small groups can take on a nature of their own and be in a variety of different places. The focus of the groups is to disciple and evangelize. It is a place of instruction and freedom to learn how to minister to others. The small group is the bedrock unit of the fellowship.

- *A lack of intercessory prayer and cooperation among the churches.*

We will host weekly prayer meetings for prayer and intercession focusing on the city, the state, the nation, and the world as instructed by Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1–15. Success in prayer will bring success for the church. It is essential to pray and fast to break the strong holds in our geographic area. We will encourage other churches and their pastors to join in a weekly prayer for pastors to seek God and support each ministry.

- *A lack of evangelism in the community.* – There is a pronounced need for evangelism in the region. The lack of a burden to bring others into the salvation we enjoy must return to the church (2 Corinthians 5:11–15). As Paul was convicted of the second coming of the Lord Jesus, he was also convicted of the judgement of the lost. When was the last time we prayed or cried out for the lost? It is time to return to commissioning we have been given in Matthew 28:16-20.

- *Lack of understanding and application of a Biblical worldview* – The Christian church in America by and large does not teach or promote a Biblical worldview. We will teach and apply a Biblical Inerrancy, and Biblical worldview in all that we do. Furthermore, we will pass down to the generations the morals of this worldview so they may understand the culture they live in and how to stand and minister in it. We will judge the culture by the scripture and not the scripture by the culture.

- *Homelessness* – We will minister to the poor and destitute to the best of our abilities. We will work with current organizations and ministries to meet the needs of others. We will establish a benevolence fund to meet this need.

- *A need for Youth outreach and discipleship* – Our youth are inundated by the culture to conform to an antibiblical worldview. The church by and large has failed to provide Biblical teaching based on such a Biblical worldview. The 15- to 25-year-old is the target generation of those who desire to transform the generations to a secular worldview. It is important we reach those generations as they are the future of Christianity. If we lose them there will be no future church. This is the plan of the secularist.

Too often "youth group" is nothing more than a party, rather than a discipling opportunity. As we are a relational fellowship RCCA takes the stand our youth must be fully equipped and be an active part of the ministry. That means they understand:

1. *How to study and understand how to accurately interpret the Bible and apply it to their lives.*
2. *Know what their spiritual gifts are and be trained to use them and teach other the same.*
3. *Know what their calling and vocation is.*
4. *Provide opportunities to articulate their faith and share it with others.*
5. *Have an experience with Christ that brings the reality of what they are learning is not just doctrinal facts.*

Youth needs to have an encounter with Christ, a place that is safe and nurturing. To have such a place we will need a facility that will accommodate a youth ministry as well as other parts of the ministry (more on this later). Such a center will provide a location not only for instruction, but a youth worship outreach.

- *A failing school system*. – The current crisis in education became known to parents during the covid lockdowns. The government public school system is indoctrinating its students in a secular worldview that includes:

- *A revisionist History of our nation and western civilization.*
- *A revisionist perspective concerning religion and spiritual matters.*
- *Sex and health education contrary to biblical standards including marriage and family.*

- *Compliance with sexual mandates by our state and federal government.*
- *Lack of math skills*
- *Lack of reading and English skills.*
- *Science used as the ultimate authority in all matters.*
- *Lack of discipline.*

We propose to start a homeschool cooperative where parents have the option to homeschool their children against government propaganda and social engineering while having help and support from others. This will require competent teachers and a facility to meet our needs.

- *Drugs* - Our area is permeated with drugs. It does not help that Marijuana is sold in the city and used openly. This is a gateway drug and contributes to the high use of meth in the region. We oppose such usage for nonmedical reasons and will offer help to those who desire to stop using drugs.

- *Civil Government out of control.* – Local, as well as State and Federal government is out of control. We will judge the actions of government by a Biblical and constitutional worldview. We will encourage officials to follow the guidelines of the nation's founders and the rule of law. We will also encourage people to run for office.

Action Plan – Prayer is the key to all that we do. CMI has partnered with Pastor Doug Small concerning training in intercessory prayer. These are zoom meetings once a month. We also should encourage Thursday prayer as well other times of prayer and worship.

A new format for Sunday service will open the opportunity for deeper prayer and praise. The format will be in four stages and subject to change as needed. Flexibility Is the key to keep from having rigid tradition dominate the format.

We will continue to have small groups during the week and multiply them at different times and places. Groups can custom their formats according to the needs. The purpose is to evangelize and disciple as well as fellowship. Group leaders will be trained with theory and hands on approach

The Sunday format follows the pattern and is flexible as the Spirit leads:

1. Music, coffee, and Fellowship.
2. Preaching of the Word
3. Worship, prayer, and praise
4. Fellowship and snack with once a month a fellowship meal and communion.

We are experimenting with the above format and will see how it works.

A new Location is needed to activate outreach to the community. We are not looking to buy such a facility but to rent. A building may be used that we can grow into until a bigger place as needed. This type of flexibility will allow growth without carrying a debt for a building we outgrow. The

facility needs to be as close to the downtown, and within walking distance to the High School as possible. This is due to the focus target age group. Transportation is always the biggest challenge for any program in the county.

A Homeschool cooperative will prove to be another way of community outreach. Currently in Allegan there is no such opportunity available. Such a school will provide not only outreach to the community but a biblical education for the youth to be able to stand in the current cultural crisis. If successful, the cooperative can be the foundation for a Christian school.

Youth Ministry will continue with the objective not only to minister to the needs of our youth, but to equip them to be able to minister to their peers. We want to work toward a Friday or Saturday worship ministry with quality live music focused on the presence of the Holy Spirit and a teaching environment to raise a generation of spirit filled worship leaders.

Purchase with a Purpose - Helping local and world missions store

A gift shop and bookstore, that could work off consignment or we purchase products up front for re-sale. All items in the store would be products made by or sold to support all different types of missions (adequate research would need to be done to ensure the validity). Each table, shelf, or rack would have a notice showing the name of the organization and a short description of what they do, so shoppers would be able to see what mission they are supporting when they purchase those items. These would have a wide range from human trafficking and rehab centers to animal shelters and other nonprofits that sell products to support their missions.

The bookstore would include books written with this purpose and others that speak out on the current culture issues, Christian values, Bibles, Studies, Journals, etc. and home school materials.

Any items that are purchased for re-sale that are not associated with a mission directly will be associated to our Community Center. The goal is not only to help support the Community Center and the Missions in the store but to raise awareness and support for these issues.

Ministry Training thru the Embassy training institute will help in the further education of those who desire a deeper knowledge of the Bible, Theology, Church history, and practical ministry. Such a school will train missions, church planters, and those with fivefold ministry. The approach of the school is one of a Hebraic format of experience and interpretation.

The Bonhoeffer Forum – will be a sub ministry of the church. It is a thinktank with a focus on issues of church and culture. It will do conferences, symposiums and produce position papers on issues of church and culture. Its makeup will consist of thinkers from different backgrounds who can contribute with authority on a variety of different subjects. If the forum is successful it will at some point become its own separate ministry from the fellowship.

All these things are great and need to be developed as doors open. Our greatest challenge will be of course, money. Prayer is the key. For this reason, we need to share the vision and in some cases partner with others. I want to refine this document with the help of the church counsel and present it to the Body another for prayer and financial support. Your comments and suggestions are welcome as we work together to bring forth God's kingdom.