Post Covid-19 Church and Ministry Framework

Rationale:
The church and society are experiencing a once-in-a- millennium shift right now. A reevaluation of the way we think about everything from morality, our identity, and our theology. As we make changes we must do so, slowly and be intentional about making changes to meet the needs of members and the community.

The Two Ideas of the Church:
1. To stand strong on the unchanging principles of God's word.
2. Adapt our methods to a fast-changing world. To make this change we need to reinforce the following 10 principles.

The Ten Principles are:
1. Reestablish the **Biblical principles of God's word**

2. Emphasize **discipleship** and **leadership** training **(Ephesians 4:11-12)**
So, Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors, and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

3. Reduce unnecessary expenses

4. Rethink how to use the church building for ministry and serving the Community.

5. Strategic planning

6. Engage the community around the church to know their needs and Concerns.

7. Emphasize Jesus over tradition, buildings, politics, or denomination.

8. Restructure what needs to be restructured

9. Make disciples not converts

Converts join a club. **Disciples** start a movement.
Converts follow traditions. **Disciples** follow Jesus.
Converts change their minds. **Disciples** change their lives. And other people's lives.

10. Figure out the value of the church for the community.

Evaluate the Health of the church:
- Finances
- Ministries
- Outreach
- Education
- Worship

Promote Teaching, Spiritual Worship, and Fellowship:
Making this change is about knowing the direction the church is going and consistent and honest message to the people.

Church Leadership has 2 Priorities:
1. Teaching the Word of God
2. Making prayer a key concern

Reopening the Church Things to Consider:

1. Fill the people with
   Teaching
   Worship
   Fellowship

2. Reopening the church will be a slow and steady process.

3. The way the people hear, understand, and receive the Word of God is changing. Because of covid-19 we will have three groups to work with.
   1**. Online Only Members** are elderly, sick, and shut ins and those who are still have health concerns about covid-19.
   2. **Online Transitioning Members** are those who are mainly online but will consider worshipping in person.

3. **Dual Citizenship Members** those who worship online and in person.

4. The church leadership needs to know
   A. Community
   B. Congregation
   C. Meet the needs of the people in a personal way.
   D. Be flexible and adaptive
   E. Be proactive not reactive.

Programs that may need to be virtual, in person, or both.
1. Special Programs
2. Outreach / Evangelism
3. Christian Education
   A. Sunday School
   B. Bible Study
   C. Vacation Bible school
4. Leadership and Member Training
5. The leadership should concentrate on doing a few ministries well.

New Level of Prayer and Focus:
Church Leaders have two main priorities.
1. Teaching God's Word
2. Concentrating on Prayer

Prayer Ministry the Three Keys:

1. Church leadership must be intentional about keeping prayer at the forefront.
2. Periodic prayer for renewal and strength by members and leadership.
3. Pray and Wait on God for direction

Message of Social Justice, Equality, and Unity:
1. Remind Community we are united through the Holy Spirit.
2. Stress love for all people
3. We are one family in God.

Nine Key Changes for the Post-Quarantine Church
1. Keep things simple clear plan out communication.
2. Community Focus look outside the walls of the church
3. Worship may be smaller in person and virtual as well
4. There may be instant membership grow after covid-19. The leadership needs to plan on how to sustain the growth.
5. Plan for digital technology to expand in the church.
6. Reaching out to those who do not return after the pandemic or have lost interest in the church.
7. Embracing digital services.
8. Changes in Leadership training
9. Pastors will need more training and roles may change