

# NEWCOMERS CLASS

*Introductions: History & Mission*

# WHY LAWRENCE?

- ▶ A secular culture in need of Christ. Perhaps 10% attend church.
- ▶ Too few biblically sound churches.
- ▶ A lack of churches that would share our theology and philosophy of ministry.
- ▶ Multiple answers to prayer (pastoral guidance, a ready team, local confirmation)



# SUNDAY NIGHT MEETINGS

► Fall 2014 - Bible Study, planning, prayer





# GROUP COMMISSION



# FIRST SUNDAY

▶ January 11, 2015

▶ 36 people - visitors!



# UNION PACIFIC DEPOT

September 2015





Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
Highest praises honor and glory,  
Be unto Your name,  
Be unto Your name.

EXIT

THE JUBILEAN ROOM








**LAST SUNDAY AT THE DEPOT**

# The Carnegie Building

July 2016





Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,  
With Thy favor, loss is gain

NEXT SONG: Blank Slate

# COUNTRYSIDE RELEASE SERVICE

January 2017



2020 – A NEW SEASON







"... He was indignant to His people, He has  
remembered His covenant forever, Holy and awesome is  
His name!"







# Additional Milestones

- ▶ Called Steven Parkin to serve as Pastor in 2021
- ▶ Paid off mortgage in 2022

# MISSION

## First ...what is the church?

- ▶ Those redeemed by grace, united by faith in Christ
- ▶ The global / universal family of God (THE Church)
- ▶ The local assembly of believers (a church)
- ▶ An institution with God-ordained authority, mission, ordinances, and promises.

# Biblical Metaphors

- ▶ The Family of God (Eph 2:19)
- ▶ The Bride of Christ (Eph 5:32)
- ▶ The Body of Christ (Eph 5:30)
- ▶ The Temple of the Holy Spirit (Eph 2:21; 1 Cor 3:16)

*The church is God's program, his priority,  
the primary way in which he is working to  
bring about his purposes in the world today.*



# Our Mission is NOT...

- ▶ Things only Jesus can do
- ▶ Things that lack eternal value
- ▶ Things we MAY do
- ▶ Things commanded broadly to individuals

# OUR MISSION

*“We exist to glorify God by being  
and making disciples of Jesus.”*

# To glorify God ...

- ▶ The glory of God is our ultimate goal: our mission has an *upward aim.*

# To glorify God by **being ...disciples** **of Jesus**

- ▶ The glory of God is our ultimate goal: our mission has an upward aim
- ▶ Following Jesus as disciples means our mission has a forward direction.

# To glorify God by being and **making disciples of Jesus**

- ▶ The glory of God is our ultimate goal: our mission has an upward aim
- ▶ Following Jesus as disciples means our mission has a forward direction.
- ▶ Calling others to follow Jesus as disciples means our mission has an outward concern.

# Conclusion

*We believe faithfulness to this mission will produce and sustain healthy churches. It is through such churches that God's program will continue.*

**QUESTIONS**

# **NEXT WEEK**

Doctrinal Distinctives & Ordinances