

VISION

- Objective:** Union Station represents a collaborative effort among churches and social service organizations in Logan County to create a centralized ministry for serving the people of Logan County.
- The Need:** There are several churches in the Logan County area that provide ministries, resources, and services to meet a wide variety of needs people are facing. However, the churches are disconnected both geographically and organizationally, and there is a lack of coherency and unity in their approach to serving people, which means often the ministries and resources are not employed in the most effective and efficient manner.
- (1) **Communication:** There is no system whereby churches can communicate to each other which needs they have or those within.
 - (2) **Redundancy:** Several churches providing resources to meet the same needs.
 - (3) **Inefficiency:** Often, churches working independently with their own limited resources cannot be as effect in a specific are of ministry as they can working together with their resources.
 - (4) **Ineffectiveness:** The assistance churches offer often focuses on individual “symptomatic” needs (e.g. monetary assistance) rather than taking a holistic approach to meeting “systemic” needs. As a result, we continually see the same problems of poverty and crime being perpetuated.
 - (5) **Gospel Centeredness:** There is a tendency for churches to focus on meeting physical needs, while neglecting to meet the most important need—that of a savior.
- Our vision:** Our vision is to build unity among the churches of Logan County in such a way that enables us to bring together our resources, collaborate our efforts, and increase our effectiveness in serving the people of Logan County. We envision a centralized, collaborative ministry effort that is committed to bringing the gospel of Christ to meet the real needs that are facing individuals and families in our community. Further, our vision is to be explicit with the Gospel, understanding that the most important need anyone faces is the need of a savior. Our conviction is that transformation only comes by the power of the Holy Spirit, and we will not be content to meet symptomatic physical needs while neglecting the systemic problem of an unregenerate heart. Thus, our vision is to follow the example set by Christ and provide holistic care to his people—being, first, motivated by

compassion for the temporal state to meet their physical needs, and then by a desire for their eternal state to meet their spiritual need of salvation.

One thing we can all affirm is that Christ is the head of the church, which is his body. It is hard to speak of “the church” today because we have fragmented ourselves into several local church bodies, effectively making Christ into a schizophrenic multi-headed creature like the one John saw in Revelation. We do not expect to achieve an ecumenical movement which brings theological unity to the churches; but what we do expect is to bring the churches into unity through ministry and service. The churches of Logan County can unite under the headship of Christ, who is the head of but one church, and together serve the people of Logan County for the Glory of God.