

Churches, like people, have different callings. Over a period of time (26 years), Priest Lake Christian Fellowship (PLCF) has discerned what we believe to be the major things we are called to by Christ. One of the ways we have done this is borrowed from the Old Testament picture of the memory stones: Often the Patriarchs, after God had done a mighty work among them, would make a pile of stones and dedicate it as a remembrance of the significant event. There are significant events that God has done among us at PLCF. Looking back over our shoulders to these metaphorical piles of stone, we can line up trajectories for our future based not only on the directions to which they point, but also on the frequency or clusters of these events. To use the language of the pastor and author Henry Blackaby, *“We see where God has been at work, and is at work, and we join Him in His plans.”*

Here are the five major areas into which the Holy Spirit has led us. There are many important things happening around PLCF that are not included here. These five are simply where we see the clusters of God’s activity among us. The first four have a Psalm that we believe we have been given to guide our prayers for these areas. I will give the Psalm, the area of calling, and a very brief explanation of the history around it:

1. Psalm 32 -- Ministry to Men. Twenty-one years ago the Lord began a process of calling our church to minister to men. Some of the guidance around this calling has been rather dramatic. The end result has been that our men share a corporate sense of God’s calling upon their lives and the responsibilities that flow from that. Several of the significant outreaches that we do each year focus on this calling.
2. Psalm 67 -- World Missions. When our church was only about 50 people, our church sent out our first missionary to the Philippines. Currently, we have very dear and personal outreach connections in Ethiopia, India, and Thailand/Laos. In addition, we are significantly involved with a ministry in Jellico, TN. A substantial part of our budget – 20 to 25 percent – is usually dedicated to missions.
3. Psalm 85 – Prayer/Work for Renewal. We believe that God has called us to pray and work toward a move of His Spirit among His people in Nashville. By its very nature, this will be a work of unity, repentance, and great praise directed to our Lord. Much of what we do at PLCF has this wider Kingdom focus.
4. Psalm 145 – The Ministry to the Generations. We were half children when our church began, and we are half children today. God has called PLCF to pay close attention to the generations that are growing up into the Lord. Our desire is for them to grow into oaks of righteousness (Isaiah 61), bearing fruit well into their old age.
5. Ministry to Leaders. PLCF has always had a quiet ministry to church leaders. We desire to raise up and produce healthy elders, ministry leaders and pastors. We also wish to aid other churches in doing the same.