

Hope everyone had a great Easter celebration. Church was quite full and Pastor Tim gave an amazing message. If you missed it, we would definitely encourage you to see it online. You will be blessed and challenged by his heartfelt sharing!

As we mentioned in our last Elder Newsletter, we are going to have several Newsletter in April 2023 because so much has happened. This past week we met with Steve Fowler to discuss PEAK. This update will focus on that. The next update will discuss our meeting with Interim Pastor Ministries which is the organization we are working with to find an interim pastor who best fits our needs.

It is not easy to comprehensively communicate things through an email like this. I wish we had the opportunity to interact face to face so you can get the full “heart” of the information. I hope you can sense how exciting and beneficial the PEAK process will be for us as a church. We will do our best to communicate in 2 pages (haha!).

**PEAK** (Preparing to Expect the Advancement of the Kingdom)  
[www.PEAKprofile.org](http://www.PEAKprofile.org)

PEAK was developed in 2017 by our own Christian & Missionary Alliance (C&MA). It was initially developed to help churches who felt “stuck” and needed help but then it was used as a church “check up” process. In the C&MA approximately 300 churches have gone through the PEAK process. The Pacific Northwest (PNW) region now requires any church going through a senior pastor transition (like CAC) to go through this process. Currently, in the PNW district, 14 churches are going through the process and about 50% are in a pastor search situation.

PEAK is a very comprehensive and scientific process that has 7 major sessions which will result in a comprehensive report for CAC to learn more about itself. It will help us to understand our strengths and weaknesses. It will help us to understand our history from the time CAC first opened its door to the present time. It will provide us with a deeper understanding of what the needs are for the community we serve. This tool ultimately helps to develop a profile of who and what we are looking for in a pastoral position. It will allow us to develop action plans for where we want to be in the future. It is a very unique and exciting process and the elders are excited that we are being given this opportunity to be a part of PEAK free of charge! **BUT, IT WILL REQUIRE AS MANY OF US AS POSSIBLE TO BE INVOLVED (this is explained below).**

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We know that this sounds like a lot of work (and it is a lot of work) but we suspect we will have a lot of “aha” moments as we go through this process and it will give us an organized structure to seek God. We all really want to know what God wants to do with Canby Alliance Church.

He is a summary of the 7 sessions:

**Session #1: DREAMING**—In this session we try to dream about what we feel Jesus wants to do in our church. What do we feel Jesus wants to do more of or less of in CAC? How does God want to use us in our community? This is where we dream big. This is a time where we sit with God and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us.

**Session #2: SURVEY**—Through a series of questions that the leaders answer, PEAK will develop a comprehensive survey that looks at the 9 biblical factors of health (this was listed in our prior Elder Newsletter: spiritual leadership, personal growth, mission focus, loving community, worship gathering, vision alignment, Alliance partnership, financial stewardship and effective organization). All attendees and anyone in leadership will be invited and encouraged to fill out this survey and this is how the report is generated. Ideally, for statistical purposes, we want to see a minimum of 30% of the church attendees fill out this survey but the higher the percentage the more accurate profile will be developed. **This is where we need your help!! We absolutely need everyone (now wouldn't that be a miracle if you had over 90% compliance!** The survey can be done electronically through a link but it can also be done on paper which would then be imputed into the electronic process. The electronic process is necessary to develop the data and graphs and information PEAK wants to provide CAC with.

**Session #3: COMPASS**—In this session we look at the concept of discipleship and missions and we try to define this based on each of our experiences, all the time trying to clarify what we mean by these terms.

**Session #4: COMMUNITY**—This session allows us to evaluate our local church and the community we serve and tries to answer the question of who attends CAC and what are the characteristics of the community we serve. What are the urgent needs of our community? What kind of an impact can we have in reaching out to our community? How do we achieve the biggest impact on our community?

**Session #5: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES**—This is the session that will require a lot of homework from us, especially those who have attended CAC since its beginning. We try to look at CAC historically from when we first opened our doors to the present. We try to look at the major focal points of CAC and the transition points. By doing this, we hope to discover our fingerprint or our DNA and we hope it will help us to see patterns in our church. It will hopefully identify anything in our church that requires redemption or restoration. This is where we look at issues of spiritual warfare that CAC has faced through its history.

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**Session #6:** MINISTRY ACTION PLANS (MAP)–This is the session where we bring everything together (themes, compass, our story from the beginning, our community, etc) and develop a MAP to move forward.

**Session #7:** MORE MINISTRY ACTION PLANS–Lastly, this is where we as a church report back to our coaches and discuss what insights this process provided us with. In this session, we develop further ministry action plans for the future.

Each session is done monthly although some sessions may require 2 meetings, depending upon what is discovered. Usually the team that goes through this is made up of a combination of elders, governing board members and committed volunteers. The desired number is between 6-12 committed individuals.

We know this sounds like a lot of work but the information and insights we get from the PEAK process is extremely valuable. I do believe after hearing about the PEAK process, we definitely see how helpful it will be and will heighten our anticipation for the future of Canby Alliance Church.

To our dear church family, we (your elders and leadership) want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you and serve God in this time of transition. If there is ever a time that the world needs hope, it is now, and we are convinced that hope comes through a personal relationship with Jesus and through what the community of Christ followers has to offer. We hope you believe this as well. We love all of you deeply. Each of you matters to us.

Once again, please prepare your hearts and minds to participate in the survey when it is available.

Until you hear from us in Elder Newsletter 4.3, may God continue to draw close to each of us as we seek Him.

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