

OUR CORE VALUES

3-23-22

LOVE: Love is the first fruit of the Holy Spirit and the most powerful demonstration of God's grace in our lives. All relationships, both inside and outside the church walls, should be steeped in love. Love is how we will interact with one another and ultimately will be how the world understands we are disciples of Jesus.

(Matthew 18:14; 22:37-39; Luke 5:30-32; Luke 15; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13; Galatians 5:6, 22-23; 1 John 4:7-12)

SERVICE: Jesus came to earth not "to be served but to serve." As followers of Jesus we honor the master by serving others as He served. We believe each member of the body of Christ has been given a Spiritual gift that enables us to serve for the "common good". It is through our service to others that we grow most in faith and personal maturity. We believe we are most effective in our service through the ministry of the church.

(Mark 10: 42-45; John 13:5-17, 1 Corinthians 12; Galatians 6:9-10; James 2:14-18)

EVANGELISM: We are commanded by Jesus to go to the "ends of the earth" to witness, teach, baptize, and make disciples. It is the responsibility of each member of the body of Christ to share by word and deed the light of Jesus' love and grace. People need the Lord and we accept the responsibility to share the good news of Jesus. We go into the world, as ambassadors of Jesus, to invite people to be reconciled to God through the blood of Jesus.

(Matthew 9:35-38; 28:19-20; Acts 1:7-8; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21)

PEOPLE: We believe people are created by God and therefore are sacred and of great self-worth. We reject any behavior that does not value an individual as a person of sacred worth. We also accept the fact that we are sinners and fall short of the glory of God. The power of Jesus death on the

cross is that we can be forgiven and given new life to reclaim what God intended for us.

(Psalm 139:13-14; Genesis 3; Romans 3:21-26; 5:12-19; John 10:10)

SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS: As a part of the Wesleyan tradition, we believe that genuine faith produces inward and outward holiness. The call to repent and turn from our old life and accept the “New Life” given in Christ Jesus cannot help but find expression in an improved moral character. The doctrine of holiness is grounded in the command to be holy as God is holy. Jesus commanded, “Be perfect therefore as your Father in heaven is perfect.” In a word, holiness is having “**the mind that was in Christ**”, and the “walking as Christ walked”. This spiritual growth called holiness, is a life long journey of surrendering to the will of God.

(Leviticus 19:2; Matthew 5:48; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:1-4; Ephesians 4:1-6; Colossians 1:10-14)

THE LOCAL CHURCH: The church was created by Jesus to be “the hope of the world.” Nothing on earth has greater potential than the local church to change lives and carry out God’s kingdom work in the community. There is nothing like the local church in its power, influence, and beauty. Its potential is unlimited. Jesus promised that the “gates of hell” could not prevail against it. No other organization on earth has the authority of God to change the world. Through membership, we make the local church the center of our mission to the world. It is our personal responsibility to build a vibrant church that will have an impact on our community and fulfill God’s calling to make disciples. Through the ordinances of the Church, we experience the grace of God.

(Matthew 16:15-20; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7; Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:45-48; 1 Peter 2:9-12)