

# Our Core Values

**Mission statement:** *Be Won. Be One. Be Wanting More.*

We are a REDEEMED FLOCK, saved by grace through faith in Christ Jesus, cognizant of our sin, but equally cognizant of where salvation is to be found.

We are a CHRIST-CENTERED FLOCK, gathered around our Good Shepherd who has laid down His life for us His sheep. It is in Him we proclaim our actions, our words, our attitude, outreach, and vision.

We are a WORSHIPING FLOCK, expressing with vibrancy and joy our praise of a mighty God actively involved in our world.

We are a CARING AND SHARING FLOCK, interested in the lives of one another and others, doing things to help those in need.

We are a GROWING FLOCK – growing larger through evangelism, deeper through Bible study, stronger through worship, broader through service, and warmer through fellowship – for if we are not growing, we are dying.

We are a BUILDING FLOCK, a continual construction zone – building future phases of our master plan, building relationships between us and the community around us, and between that community and the Savior we love.

We are a MISSION FLOCK, striving to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to our community, our country, and our world.

TO THAT END, AND IN HIS NAME, WE EMBRACE AND VALUE...

## Word of God

A church must be centered around preaching, teaching, and discipleship that is Scripture-based and Scripture-driven. The timeless authority of the Word of God – the proclamation of His love for all people through the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ – that is the foundation of all that is done in our church. Bible studies, sermons, fellowship, nurturing, ministry, and service should all be grounded completely in the Word.

## Authenticity

“What you see is what you get.” The people of God need to be real people, and the pastor recognized as a human being. The government of the church must be open, understood, accessible, and answerable. Many unchurched people are always on the lookout for hypocrisy among Christians. At Good Shepherd we want to do everything possible to negate that perception. The Christian isn't perfect...just forgiven.

## Communion

Communion is what the Holy Spirit does to a community. It isn't controlled by human beings or protected by regulations; like discipleship, it is a vibrant, evolving entity. Christ's communion with sinners and outcasts often came at the expense of how He was viewed by the religious-minded of His day. We are aware that ours might come under criticism in certain circles, too. Our celebration of the Eucharist reflects the understanding that Christ's body and blood, like His death on the cross, is openly offered to all believers "in remembrance of Him."

## Growth

The Christian is never a finished product. Like any living organism, he/she is either growing or dying. Furthering this growth in oneself or in others is called discipleship. It is the process that begins with the winning of new people to Christ, and continues as they grow through training and education into service, leadership, and making disciples of others.

## Relevance

The Word of God still has something to say in a new millennium. It speaks to today's world, offering comfort and healing to modern people. Every effort should be made to discover and meet people where they are at. This means becoming adept in using the latest technologies, analogies, and strategies to do so.

## Quality

Whatever we do as a church, or as individuals in it, must be done well. No sloppy or half-hearted efforts will work. This includes our worship, our programs, our facilities, our service and our ministry. To ensure such quality there must be an accurate and ongoing process of evaluation.

## Prayer

here is no power on earth greater than prayer. It can move mountains, span chasms, heal divisions, support, affirm, and equip. And prayer means both talking to God and listening to Him. We can never ask, nor seek, nor knock in vain. For its life and future, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is entirely dependant upon prayer.

## Enjoyment

We call it "good news" for a reason! We are saved...before we even realize we are in peril. Christians should be happier than any other people in the world: giddy and in love because they realize the Lord of lords has fallen head over heels in love with them. So, and church should smile, laugh, giggle, embrace, and infect those around them with joy.

## Spiritual Gifts

"...the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith..." To accomplish His work in His world, the Lord has equipped every Christian with

gifts and talents that vary. These talents should not be buried, but rather discovered, encouraged, and developed for the growth of both the individual and the Body of Christ.

#### What Is Expected of Me

As partners together, we of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church hope that our lives will reflect the principles of our **Mission Statement**. That each and every one of us might be able to say with confidence:

#### I AM WON...TO CHRIST

from conflicting loyalties  
from false and dead end beliefs  
from selfishness  
from waywardness

For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by His life.

[Romans 5:10]

#### I AM ONE...WITH OTHERS THE BODY OF CHRIST

worshiping together, working together  
praying for unity and reconciliation  
treating one another with love and respect  
bearing one another's burdens

Holy Father, protect them in Your name...so that they may be one as You and I are one.

[John 17:11]

For just as the body is one and has many members,  
and all the members of the body, though many, are so, so it is with Christ.

[1 Corinthians 12:12]

#### I AM WANTING MORE...DISCIPLESHIP

learning more about God and His plan of salvation  
finding new ways to grow and be of service  
reaching out to others with the Good News

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ....And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best.

[Philippians 1:6, 9]