

OUR 2012 MISSION Statement

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“To encourage everyone to a daily walk with God,¹ and a lifelong pursuit of maturity in Him,² resulting in the fulfillment of His purposes in each life³ that will enable us to fulfill God’s mandate for a united,⁴ functioning body.”⁵

Intro: How this Mission Statement formed:

- Staff questions: Why are you here? Can we agree on one mission?
- Board questions: Why are you here? Can we agree on one mission?
- Congregation questions: Why are you here? Can we agree on one mission?

Let’s analyze this mission statement . . .

1) Abiding in Christ

Mission Statement: “To encourage everyone to a daily walk with God . . .”

(John 15:7,9) ESV

7 “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.”

Key Phrase: “Abide in me”

Notes:

➤ Abide (Greek: Meno)

➤ Various Uses:

- To remain, dwell. (As in a place to live)
- To endure or last. (The last man standing—never give in)
- To persevere. (Overcoming all obstacles and fatigue)

- To stand firm and steadfast. (Unwavering in faith and commitment)
 - To remain alive.
 - To wait for. (Watch and wait without fainting)
 - To remain under and be patient. (Not impetuous, but to keep ones heart under submission and enduring with patience)
- **Vital!** We all have **impulses within and temptations without** attempting to draw us out of our place of abiding.
- **Our mission** is to encourage and strengthen one another in the battle to abide

2) Maturing in Christ-Likeness

Mission Statement “. . . and a lifelong pursuit of maturity in Him . . .”

(Romans 8:28-30) ESV

28 “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Key Phrase: “. . . predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son . . .”

Notes:

- **Steel vs Clay:** It takes **more heat and pressure** to mold steel than it does clay.

We each choose how we want the molding to go—soft or hard

- We exist as a church to help one another conform to this predestined purpose of God.

3) God’s Purpose Fulfilled in You

Mission Statement “. . . resulting in the fulfillment of His purposes in each life . . .”

Psalm 138:8 ESV

8 “The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.”

Key Phrase: “The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me . . .”

Notes:

- **What is the #1 desire** (or purpose) you want to fulfill?
- **Solomon’s conclusion** about purpose

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 ESV

13 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

- **Key:** God’s purpose for your life is a plan established in eternity past, a purpose that is being fulfilled in the present and a path that extends throughout future eternity.

4) Unity of the Body

Mission Statement “. . . that will enable us to fulfill God’s mandate for a united . . .”

Ephesians 4:1-7 ESV

1 “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.”

Key Phrase: “. . . maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace’

Notes:

- “What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.”

- Preserving the “unity of Spirit in the bond of peace” is a sacred entrustment.
- **If God considered adultery** sufficient cause for judging a nation—as he did with Israel—how much more sever do you think his judgment will be upon those who assault the body of Christ by violating unity through the neglect of peace?
- **Our work** as a staff, a board and church is to engage in an ever vigilant watch and care for the unity of Spirit through the bond of peace.

5) Evangelism & Discipleship

Mission Statement: “. . . functioning body.”

Matthew 28:18-20 ESV

18 “And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Key Phrase: make disciples of all nations

Notes:

- A functioning body is one that is healthy enough to accomplish the work set before it.
 - It obeys the commands from the brain.
 - It carries out the desires of the heart.
 - It does not walk the path it chooses, but the one you choose.
- Christ the head has told his body which path to take and what to do along the path—i.e. bear witness and make disciples.
- **Vital:** Only when the church is functioning properly in the areas of evangelism and discipleship does the world have light to see and salt to preserve.
- We want to be a healthy, functioning church fulfilling the commands of our Lord.

Call to Action

Our 2012 Mission Statement

To encourage everyone to a daily walk with God, and a lifelong pursuit of maturity in Him, resulting in the fulfillment of His purposes in each life that will enable us to fulfill God's mandate for a united, functioning body.

Next Three Weeks

1) Study this Mission Statement

Absorb what God is saying to us in his Word

2) Partial Fasting and Prayer

We have all we need to succeed this year

- **God's promises**
- **Solid congregation (Many CIAs)**
- **Ministry team**
 - **Ky Searcy**
 - **Rob Gowing**
 - **Matt Sargent**
 - **Sarah Layton**

3) We will meet with satanic opposition. This must be overcome through prayer in the heavenly realms.