



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Good News Church exists to offer opportunities for God's people to grow in their love for God, for one another, for the Bible, and for unbelievers in ways that are evident to all. We desire to fulfill God's will for His church, that all might have the opportunity to become a fully devoted disciple of Jesus Christ. Therefore, our purpose statement is best defined in this way:

CELEBRATION

Good News Church exists to offer opportunities for believers to worship and to grow in their love for God, so that He might be glorified in and through their lives.

"And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father." (Phil. 2:8-11)

The purpose of the Church begins with the recognition that we do not belong to ourselves, having been purchased by the death of Jesus Christ, and that He alone is Lord. Enthroned with all authority, He is the Head of the Church, the One to whom entire allegiance is due. We thus should seek in all things to follow His will as revealed in Scriptures, and bring glory to His name.

(1 Corinthians 6:19, Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 1:18, 1 Peter 1:18-19)

COMMUNITY

Good News Church exists to offer opportunities for every believer to grow in their love for one another. Believers are to be committed to one another. The Body of Christ is to be composed of interdependent members, each having received from the Holy Spirit gifts which are to be exercised for the building up of the whole Body and for the bearing of one another's spiritual and temporal burdens. We thus should desire to encourage one another in the development and use of each other's abilities, knowing that "the whole body, as a harmonious structure knit together by that which every joint supplies, grows by the proper functioning of individual parts to its full maturity in love."

(Romans 12:4-6, 1 Corinthians 12:7, Hebrews 10:24-25, Colossians 1:28)

COMPREHENSION

Good News Church exists to offer opportunities for every believer to grow in their love for God's Word. Good News Church believes that the Bible is God's Word to us and the final authority in all matters.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

One of the primary goals of the Church must be the life-transformation of each of its members. This requires a strong program of Bible teaching and training in discipleship. Spiritual health will not happen apart from the work of God's Word in our lives.

(Deuteronomy 6:1-2, Hebrews 4:12, James 1:22-25)

CONVERSION

Good News Church exists to reach people who are facing a Christless eternity with the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. Good News Church exists to help God's people express their love for unbelievers so that the Spirit of God might use us to draw unbelievers to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

"Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:19-20)

We accept this commission as a priority of the Church collectively and of each believer individually, and it is our desire to share as widely and effectively as possible the Good News of God's forgiveness in Christ. God equips and calls believers into a variety of vocations and ministries, and within that context each person is to be a witness by word and deed to the Lord Jesus Christ. God offers His love to all without distinction and is concerned that believers achieve their full potential in Christ. The proclamation of the Gospel should be accompanied by genuine love and concern for all, and for the whole person.

(Matthew 5:14-16, Luke 24:46-47, Acts 1:8, Colossians 4:3-6, Romans 10:9-15)

COMPASSION

Good News Church exists to express God's unconditional love in meaningful ways as God's Holy Spirit gives us direction.

"Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'" (Matthew 25:34-36)

In addition to the proclamation of the Gospel, the Church has been commissioned by Christ to extend into the world His own ministry of compassion and of prophetic protest against evil. Without manipulating political power to impose Christian standards on a secular and pluralistic society, the Church is demonstrating the love and righteousness of God in both work and sacrificial deed.

(Matthew 9:36-38, Colossians 3:12-14, James 2:14-26, 1 John 3:16-18)