



Giving on Purpose

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## Statement of Values

**The Word of God:** We believe the Bible is the Word of God that explains God's plan for humankind, teaches us how to live in harmony with God and others, guides our actions and decisions, and is essential to our spiritual strength and growth.

**God:** We believe in the triune God, who is the all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present, eternal Being that created and sustains the universe and everything in it, and exists eternally in the Trinity of three distinguishable, but inseparable, Persons: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Jesus Christ:** We believe Jesus was miraculously conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He took human form and lived a human life, fully God and fully human, so He could become a mediator between God and humankind. Three days after His death on the cross, Jesus was resurrected, and 40 days later, He ascended into Heaven.

**The Holy Spirit:** We believe the Holy Spirit guides believers in their spiritual lives and relationship with God, helps them to understand God's Word, communes with them in prayer, and empowers them to witness the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others.

**Salvation by Grace:** We believe God in His infinite love and mercy, reconciled humanity to Himself by giving the world His only Son that whoever believes in Him should have everlasting life. Believers continue to be fallible and in need of God's forgiveness, but despite shortcomings God justifies and sanctifies those who by grace have faith in Jesus.

**Living a Godly Life:** We believe the life of a Christian should be a living example of God's love, both in word and in deed. Our lives should manifest Biblical spiritual virtues such as love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

**The Community of Faith:** We believe the Church is a spiritual entity comprising all who believe in Jesus Christ. The fellowship of Christians is not defined by buildings, denominations, or institutions, but is a community of faith of persons who are joined together in spirit and in their love for God, one another, and for the world.

**Marriage and Families:** We believe that God designed the family unit as a foundational building block of society. Men and women complement each other in mutually enriching ways. God ordained the family as the ideal way for a man and a woman to share their lives and to support and help one another. Marriage and families are important for the nurturing and care of children.

**The Sanctity of Life:** We believe that human life is sacred, to be respected and nurtured, and that each person has been granted the God-given right to be treated with respect as an individual created in the image of God. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves regardless of race, gender, creed, nationality, or social status. As God is the sole giver of life, the time of death of each human life should be left in His hands.

**Civic Responsibility:** We believe it is important to be good citizens in all matters in accordance with biblically sound Christian values, to manifest honesty and integrity, and to contribute to the welfare of one's community.