

CONSTITUTION OF CHURCH ON MILL

DISTINCTIVES: WHO WE ARE

As a missional church family, we aim to always be:

A. Bible-believing: The Bible is the Word of God given to teach us about God and how we should live in His world. It is our final authority for all things. It is the 'roadmap' for all that we are, say, and do. God's voice, speaking through it, must make sense of our past and guide our present and future. Personal and corporate traditions, history, and experience are all important, yet it is God alone through Scripture who is definitive. (Ps 1, Ps 119, Matt 22:29-33, Mrk 7:1-23, Jn 17:17, 2 Tim 3:16-17, 2 Pt 1:20-21)

B. Gospel-centered: The story of the Bible is the gospel - God's amazing plan to restore all things to himself. The gospel is the 'good news' that God has graciously provided a way for sinful people to have a right, loving relationship with Him. Jesus is the way: He left heaven, came to earth, lived a perfect life, and died in our place. Miraculously He rose from the dead to demonstrate victory over sin, death, and the devil. Through the sacrificial death of Jesus, all who turn from their sin and confess Jesus as their Lord are given eternal life. This happens in an instant, yet God's work in a person does not stop there. The on-going aspect of salvation will continue for the rest of a person's life; therefore, the gospel is for every day. (Jn 3:1-18, Rom 3:21-26, Rom 10:13-15, 2 Cor 5:21, Gal 1:6-9, Gal 2:16-3:14, 2 Tim 2:8-10, 1 Thess 2:4)

C. Transformation-minded: The Christian life is a life of grace-driven, progressive holiness. Followers of Jesus are on a path of being supernaturally changed by God in order to live in increasingly Christlike ways. Real change is possible and even promised. Our character ought to more and more frequently and robustly reflect the life of Jesus. (2 Cor 5:17, Eph 2:1-10, 1 Tim 1:12-17)

D. Devoted to each other: As a local church, being an interconnected, interdependent family of believers, we pursue genuine Christian living together. This can be a reality because the gospel affects not just our relationship with God but also our relationships with people: people who know Jesus can be in harmony with others who know Jesus. We are literally brothers and sisters in Christ who need and rely on one another. (Jn 13:34, Rom 12:10, 1 Cor 13:4-6, Gal 6:2, Phil 2:3)

E. Passionately engaged in both our community and the world: As a family of believers who have been and are being changed by the gospel, we cannot help but be moved with compassion

for the spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental needs of both our community and the world at large. God has called us to leave a geographical footprint in the Valley. He has also called us to participate in extending the gospel around the globe. We yearn to engage people in spiritual conversations, demonstrate the love of Christ through acts of mercy, and live in such a way that God will draw people to salvation through our words and deeds. (Lk 4:18-19, Jn 20:21, Acts 1:8, 1 Pt 3:13-17)

PURPOSE: WHY WE EXIST

Glorifying God through lives changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ
(Ps 34:1-3, Jn 3:16, Jn 14:6, Rom 10:9-13, Eph 4:20-21, Col 1:15-23, 1 Cor 15:1-28, 2 Cor 5:17-21)

MEANS: WHAT WE DO

Our passion is to see God at work among us as we seek to fulfill our God-given purpose. This is accomplished through three primary means, including *connect*, *transform*, and *live*.

A. Connect: To God and each other (Matt 28:19-20, Mark 12:28-31, Acts 1:8, Acts 2:42-47, 2 Tim 1:8-14, 1 Thess 3:11-14, Heb 10:24-25, 1 Jn 1:3, 1 Jn 4:19-21)

B. Transform: Into mature followers of Jesus (Rom 12:1-2, 2 Cor 3:12-18, Eph 4:11-16, Phil 1:6, Phil 2:12-13, Col 1:28-29, 1 Tim 4:7-8, 1 Thess 5:23-24)

C. Live: As missional people who serve in Jesus' name (Micah 6:8, Matt 28:18-20, Mk 12:31, Jn 20:21, Rom 12:3-8, 1 Cor 12, Eph 2:8-10, Col 4:5-6)