

Pursuing Christ

These were some of our early thoughts on being a faith community.

1. Put Christ and his cross at the center of everything so that who we are is the people of Christ and the cross.
2. Declare ourselves to be first and foremost followers of Jesus.
3. Understand that people are children of God only by God's grace through a living faith in Jesus. Moreover, God's grace is the only source for continuing spiritual growth because we cannot save ourselves nor grow ourselves into the likeness of Christ. Christians are solely dependent on God's mercy.
4. View worship as the way God's people give themselves to God in everything every day. It is not just about being together at certain times.
5. Make our times of coming together to worship occasions to celebrate Jesus as Savior and refocus on him as the center of life, while urging, teaching, and proclaiming to everyone how God transforms us into Christ's image.
6. Devote ourselves to creating a community where children are nurtured and dedicated to Christ's care knowing that in such little ones the kingdom of heaven is found.
7. Study, teach, and preach from the Bible with the knowledge that God continues to speak to everyone who seeks him.
8. Encourage everyone to practice spiritual disciplines such as prayer, scripture reading, rest and reflection, and good works since God works through these to change people to be like Jesus.
9. Respect the whole history of Christianity because God has always been at work in all times and in many ways and there is much to be learned from all the centuries of Christianity.
10. Respect other Christian churches and their traditions because often valuable insights can be learned from others who are seeking God.
11. Seek to be spiritual leaders and mentors that are loving, committed, and transparent.

