



VISION



The Vision

Living the First Century Church - *Today*

Restoring first-century faith to transform 21st-century lives



Mission Statement

To be a church community that is committed to following Jesus through a life of love and holiness, guided by first-century faith applied in a modern world.

Core Functions

(1)

Discipleship: To ensure the teachings of Christ and his apostles are effectively communicated and lived

Core Functions

(2)

Fellowship: To build loving relationships with the Lord and, through the lord, with each other

Core Functions

(3)

Prayer: To be a house of prayer, thus possessing all the promises of God

Core Functions

(4)

Stewardship: Through the faithful management of our the time, gifts and resources, which God has given us, we are enabled in the functions of the church

Core Functions

(5)

Care: To provide compassionate services to members of our community, and those without, acknowledging the continued brokenness in ourselves and the effects of fallenness in others.

Goals

(6)

Worship: To facilitate a worshipful lifestyle and the corporate worship activities of the church community

Core Functions

(7)

Evangelism: To invited others to see God's love and "the way" and follow him.



What the looks like in our context

- **We are protestant:** We use the Hebrew and Christian Bible only, as our final authority on all obligations of the faith. (compared to Bible and tradition)
- **We are culturally relevant:** We apply the teaching of scripture in the context in which we live, which is ever evolving.
- **We are apostolic:**
 1. Our best understanding of the scriptures allows us to worship one God, who is in Christ Jesus, to whom he has given his name.

What the looks like in our context

- **We are Apostolic:**
 2. We invoke the name of Jesus in our baptism rites
 3. We are intentional in our application of some Christian customs such as moderation of speech, modesty of attire, gender roles, and general engagement with non-Christian culture, without affecting the freedom of the believer or devolving into legalism.
- **We are Pentecostal:** We have received the Holy Spirit which was initially evident through glossolalia or speaking in tongues, but more powerfully manifested through a transformed life.



What the looks like in our context

- We accept that spiritual gifts and the miraculous continue to happen: Just what that says.
- We are Agapē:
 1. **We are inclusive:** We listen, we engage with other who are different from us, we create safe spaces for others to seek, and journey.
 2. **We love:** We are relationally focused, and practice empathy, listening, confronting behaviours, giving, caring, and above all the careful following the Lord's teaching and ways.



What the looks like in our context

- We are Agapē:
 3. **We follow holiness:** We pursue the high morality of God and our dealings with the world and each other. are strongly sin averse. this is reflected in the culture of our community.
 4. **We reject legalism and judgmentalism:** The actively invite people to make free choices to pursue sound doctrinal practices. and avoid guilting. coercion. and that the three categories of discipleship. right. wrong. expedience are represented.



What the looks like in our context

- **We are Agapē:**

3. **We are missional:** We are active participants in what God is doing in the world and avail ourselves sacrificially to this end.
4. **We are informed:** We engage with academic theology, and academia in general, and are not anti-intellectual. We are modern and culturally relevant, without seeing these as antithetical to the first century Christian model. We disciple toward the issues affecting humanity today such as gender, postmodernism, diversity, migration, institutional racism, religious bigotry, liberalism, conservatism, and reparations.



Welcome to Church!



Leonard Smith, MACM
Founding Pastor