

Church Values

Define who you are as a church and what you will focus on as long as the church exists.

The Church of the Nazarene:

We Are a Christian People

As members of the Church Universal, we join with all true believers in proclaiming the Lordship of Jesus Christ and in embracing the historic Trinitarian creedal statements of Christian faith. We value our Wesleyan-Holiness heritage and believe it to be a way of understanding the faith that is true to Scripture, reason, tradition, and experience.

We Are a Holiness People

God, who is holy, calls us to a life of holiness...

We Are a Missional People

We are a sent people, responding to the call of Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to go into all the world, witnessing to the Lordship of Christ and participating with God in the building of the Church and the extension of His kingdom (Matthew 28:19-20; 2 Corinthians 6:1).

North Point Community Church-Andy Stanley (not core values)

Our Mission... to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our Strategy... to create environments where people are encouraged and equipped to pursue intimacy with God, community with insiders, and influence with outsiders.

Willow Creek Community Church:

Ten core values bring clarity to the things that matter most at Willow. They guide how we achieve our mission, influencing major leadership decisions as well as everyday ministry plans. They even help us navigate staffing and budget issues. In short, they keep us focused on the unique call God has given us as a local church.

We believe anointed teaching is the catalyst for transformation in individuals' lives and in the church. This includes the concept of teaching for life change (Romans 12:7; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; James 1:23–25).

We believe lost people matter to God, and therefore, they matter to the church. This includes the concepts of relational evangelism and evangelism as a process (Luke 5:30–32; Luke 15; Matthew 18:14).

We believe the church should be culturally relevant while remaining doctrinally pure. This includes the concept of sensitively relating to our culture through our facility, printed materials, and use of the arts (1 Corinthians 9:19–23).

We believe Christ followers should manifest authenticity and yearn for continuous growth. This includes the concepts of personal authenticity, character, and wholeness (Ephesians 4:25–26, 32; Hebrews 12:1; Philippians 1:6).

We believe a church should operate as a unified community of servants, with men and women stewarding their spiritual gifts. This includes the concepts of unity, servanthood, spiritual gifts, and ministry callings (1 Corinthians 12 and 14; Romans 12; Ephesians 4; Psalm 133:1).

We believe loving relationships should permeate every aspect of church life. This includes the concepts of love-driven ministry, ministry accomplished in teams, and relationship building (1 Corinthians 13; Nehemiah 3; Luke 10:1; John 13:34–35).

We believe life-change happens best in community. This includes the concepts of discipleship, vulnerability, and accountability (Luke 6:12–13; Acts 2:44–47).

We believe excellence honors God and inspires people. This includes the concepts of evaluation, critical review, intensity, and excellence (Colossians 3:17; Malachi 1:6–14; Proverbs 27:17).

We believe churches should be led by men and women with God-given leadership gifts. This includes the concepts of empowerment, servant leadership, strategic focus, and intentionality (Nehemiah 1–2; Romans 12:8; Acts 6:2–5).

We believe the pursuit of full devotion to Christ and His cause is normal for every believer. This includes the concepts of stewardship, servanthood, outward mobility, and the pursuit of kingdom goals (1 Kings 11:4; Philippians 2:1–11; 2 Corinthians 8:7).

Joy Church:

1. Developing a personal, vibrant, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. (Phil. 3:10)
2. Personal and Ministerial Integrity. (Ps. 26:11)
3. Biblically based and Balanced Teaching. (II Tim. 3:16-17)
4. Strengthening the entire Family. (Gen. 18:19)
5. Developing the Divine Dreams, Destiny and Potential of each Individual. (Phil. 1:25)
6. Atmosphere of Affirmation. (Prov. 12:25)
7. Developing Leader. (Acts 1:15, Josh 24:31)
8. Enjoy the Journey. (Prov. 17:22, Ps. 118:24, Acts 20:24)

The Free Methodist Church (Not Core Values)

Mission Statement

The mission of the Free Methodist Church is to make known to all people everywhere God's call to wholeness through forgiveness and holiness in Jesus Christ, and to invite into membership and to equip for ministry all who respond in faith.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Free Methodist Church is to be a healthy biblical community of holy people ... multiplying disciples, leaders, groups and churches.

Kevin More:

- **Biblically-Based** – The Bible alone dictates what we believe and practice.
- **Culturally Relevant** – To be effective the church must remain culturally relevant.
- **Evangelistic** – Followers of Jesus are passionate about evangelism.
- **Church Planting** – We will be a church planting church.
- **Community** – Life change happens best in community with other Christians.
- **Discipleship** – Followers of Jesus obey his teachings.
- **Excellence** – Excellence honors God and inspires people.
- **Grace** – We will foster an environment of love, acceptance, and forgiveness.
- **Stewardship** – We will give our time, spiritual gifts, abilities, and finances to extend Christ's kingdom.

The Journey Free Methodist, Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Our Core Values

- We are committed to radical prayer. It is foundational to everything we do.
- We prioritize the lost over the found. Jesus Christ came to seek and to save the lost, so we will make decisions with this priority in mind. We expect the saved to be willing to serve the lost.
- We expect depth of character, competency, and significant fruit from our leaders. They help set the standard in holiness and evangelism.
- We seek to be culturally relevant. Priority will be given to practical application of Biblical principles.
- We expect people to grow in holiness and Christlikeness. We will do whatever we can to lovingly spur one another on to heart holiness.
- We seek honesty and transparency in our relationships with God and other people. We do not fake lives of righteousness. We will seek to live lives of brokenness and holiness.
- We are a people dominated by love and forgiveness. We are not nit-picky. We are not dominated by rules, legalism, or formalism. The Good News and good deeds can't be separated.
- We seek to be a church of celebration. We will say NO to cynicism and negativity and say YES to joy and celebration.
- We are committed to great faith. We will stretch for God and expect the unexpected. Playing it safe is risky.
- Effectiveness is measured by the impact the people of The Journey have in their community. We will help people discover God's design for their lives and equip them to use their gifts for the kingdom.
- We commit ourselves to relational ministries. Relationships are more important than being right. Programming serves relationships, not the other way around.
- We strive for excellence in everything we do. God deserves our very best effort.