

# MOUNT PISGAH CORE VALUES

## MISSION AND VALUES

October 2006

### Mount Pisgah's mission is simple yet critical:

**Making disciples of Jesus Christ.** We are passionate about helping people experience the transforming love of Jesus Christ and becoming fully devoted followers of Him. You will see this passion reflected in everything we do. Mount Pisgah worship experiences and small groups are designed to help you experience Christ. The Summit Counseling Center is here to provide counseling and Christian love. The Mount Pisgah Christian School is here to provide outreach to Pre-K through 12th grade students and help develop a lasting relationship with Christ. And the list goes on.

### Mount Pisgah is here for you.

God has blessed us with clarity in defining our mission: **Make Disciples.**

We are clear that His vision calls us to make disciples **Here** (by reaching 10% of the North Fulton community and focusing in particular on children and teenagers and their families), **There** (by being known as the Place of Compassion) and **Everywhere** (by having a vital global ministry partnership on every continent).

We have been equally clear in defining the processes we employ in this mission. These processes are: **Reach out** and receive... **Invite** into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ...**Nurture and grow** in the faith... **Send out** in mission and ministry to the world

We see the Mount Pisgah experience as the foundation upon which God will grow and equip believers for life and ministry at Mount Pisgah, for the world. To fulfill this vision, our Core Values will serve as a continual reminder of who we are and why we exist:

#### **Worship (Revelation 4:11):**

**Worship at Mount Pisgah is the "hub" of the wheel of the entire church.** As such, it will be God-honoring, Christ-glorifying, and Spirit-led. Worship is all about God. Nothing we do is more important than worship. Worship will be offered at a variety of times and places, employing a variety of styles of worship in order to reach as many different groups of people as possible. There is no "right way" to worship, except the way that accomplishes the above. We will continue to explore new and more effective styles of worship without abandoning the practices of classical Christianity. Since music plays such a vital role in worship, it is essential that we continue to strive for excellence in its performance. Music that is theologically sound and is appropriate to the culture of the audience in each worship service will serve as a tool of the Holy Spirit in leading the worshiper into the presence of God, and therefore, into life. Preaching must have the integrity of the orthodox faith and the relevance of the perceived needs of the listener. It must be done with evangelistic fervor because it is through the "foolishness of preaching" that God has chosen to share the Good News of the Kingdom with a lost and broken world.

- At the hub of Mount Pisgah; most important thing we do
- God-honoring, Christ-glorifying, Spirit-led
- Varying styles; no "right way"; continue to explore new ways, not abandon classical practices
- Music: Excellence in performance, theologically sound, appropriate to audience
- Preaching: Integrity of faith, relevance to congregation, evangelistic, energetic

### **Prayer (1Thessalonians 5:17):**

**Prayer is the engine that fuels the ministry of the church and sustains the soul of the believer.** To pray is to change. God changes our hearts and transforms our minds in prayer. Thus, prayer must undergird every effort of the church. Prayer will be simultaneously organized to employ the gifts of the laity, and spontaneously, a part of the whole of Mount Pisgah. We will train the laity to practice disciplined times of prayer, and the staff will lead them in this effort. Prayer is necessary if this church is to be able to withstand the “fiery darts of Satan” hurled at it for its effectiveness in reaching people for Jesus Christ. Both staff and laity will be encouraged and instructed in growing forward the disciplines of prayer.

- “Engine” that drives ministry & sustains the soul
- Changes & transforms; undergirds every effort
- Both organized and spontaneous

### **Welcoming Evangelism (Luke 15:3-7):**

**Mount Pisgah must always maintain a passion for the lost.** The Church exists to lead lost people into a relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. There is a difference between those who have come to know Christ and those who have not. The difference is eternal. We do not exist for ourselves. God seeks the lost, and His Church will too. Mount Pisgah will always be the congregation for others. As such, Mount Pisgah will create a warm, inviting environment where persons are welcomed and encouraged without regard to background or need. Mount Pisgah will employ the most theologically sound and culturally relevant methods in our efforts to reach the world around us with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Most of all, we will be a place of hospitality so that all who encounter Mount Pisgah will find grace, hope, and life.

- Passion for the “LOST” – the church’s **raison d’etre**
- Mount Pisgah is the “church for others”
- Warm, inviting, encouraging without regard for background or need
- Hospitality — Grace, Hope, Life

### **Discipleship (Mat hew28:20):**

**It is through intimate relationships and Christian instruction that we best grow in our faith and practice.** Hence, our mission demands that we place tremendous emphasis upon the ministry of discipleship. Jesus gave us the master plan for discipleship when He chose 12 people in whom He invested His life for three years. He then depended on them to reach the whole world. We have the pattern. Therefore, every Transformation Team member and every Leadership Team member will be expected to recruit and disciple a small group (6-12 people) in whom he or she can invest himself or herself each year. Each group may choose a different format for its focus; however, the purpose will be to replicate the faith in others. Mount Pisgah is already well-positioned to make this a reality. The educational ministries of this church, including an array of small groups, the Christian school, and First Steps Academy, provide the foundation for Christian training that equips and empowers the laity for ministry in a diverse and deviant culture. The curriculum will always be orthodox, evangelical, Wesleyan, Biblically based, Christ-centered, and God-honoring.

- Intimate relationship with Christ
- Major Mount Pisgah emphasis – employ Jesus’ model
- Small groups, educational ministries, MPCs, First Steps, etc.
- Curriculum: orthodox, evangelical, Wesleyan, Biblical, Christ-centered, God-honoring

### **Compassion (Mathew 25:31-46):**

**It is through our caring ministries that we have compassion for the least, the last and the lost of our community.** Compassion marked the ministry of Jesus. It was compassion that brought Jesus into the world and that drove Him to the cross. We will reflect His compassion as we care for others. This care will be both in times of stability and times of crisis. Obviously, the more critical times will be crises such as serious illness, trauma, suffering, and death. However, our ability to effectively minister to the church and to this community during times of crisis is directly proportional to the compassion shown during the stable times of their lives. This will be demonstrated both in the way we care for an individual when all is well, and, perhaps more importantly, the way he or she observes us caring for others in times of crisis. Ministries like A Beacon of Hope, Wylie Road homeless mission, Stephen Ministry, and The Summit Counseling Center will broaden our ability to serve a hurting world in the name of Jesus. Partnerships with ministries like Habitat for Humanity and North Fulton Community Charities will allow us to serve the hurting and the broken with compassion.

- Caring Ministries: Reach the least, the last and the lost of the community
- Minister during both stable and crisis times
- A Beacon of Hope, Wylie Road, Stephen Ministry, Summit Counseling Center, Habitat, North Fulton Community Charities, etc.

### **Excellence (Colossians 3:23-24):**

**There is no room for sloppy or shoddy workmanship in the work of the kingdom.**

Everything Mount Pisgah puts its hand to must be marked by excellence. Excellence, or quality, gives us the credibility needed with the unchurched and is that which best glorifies Christ. God gave the best to us. We will give the best to others. The ministries, worship, and programs will be excellent. The staff will be excellent. The lay leadership will be excellent. We value quality because it honors God and enhances the fulfillment of our mission.

- No tolerance for sloppy, shoddy, indifferent workmanship in Kingdom work
- Excellence = credibility
- God gives the best. Mount Pisgah gives the best
- Requirement extends to worship, ministries, programs, lay leadership, and staff

### **Collegiality (Php 1:3-6):**

**The staff and laity will function best when they function as a team.** We believe in team ministry. Every member of the team is important. Each one is counted on to deliver the very best he or she has for the sake of the kingdom. We will model team ministry among the staff and foster it with the laity. This model of ministry will rely upon the recognition of the spiritual giftedness of the individual, the enhancement of those gifts, and the employment of those gifts in the life of the Body of Christ. This will engender the qualities of mutuality, respect, confidentiality and compassion.

- Team ministry (Staff and Laity)
- Mutuality, respect, confidentiality, compassion
- Recognize individual giftedness. Enhance gifts. Employ highest & best use

### **Serving God Globally (Act 1:8):**

**While our primary mission field is the area surrounding Mount Pisgah (which includes about 250,000 people) we will never lose our passion for the world.** God's grace knows no boundaries. Mount Pisgah will go into the world, locally and globally. We will seek partnerships with other Christians to have a meaningful and vital ministry presence on every continent of the globe. We will embrace with integrity the adage of John Wesley, "The world is my parish." In a culture that is overwhelmed with selfishness, consumerism, materialism, and isolationism, the church must focus perspective on a broken and hurting world.

- God's grace has no boundaries
- Wesley: "The world is my parish."
- Minister to a broken and hurting world

### **Generosity (2 Corinthians 9:6-15):**

**We will encourage people to grow in their relationship with God as we help them grow in their giving.** Giving is the very nature of God who gave us His Son. We are invited to participate in this godly behavior by giving of our time, talents, and money. Staff will lead by example in the responsible employment of our time and talents and will encourage the laity through Spiritual Gifts assessments and workshops, Call to Care, and other avenues of ministry and services. We will also lead in our giving of our financial resources. The Biblical standard of the tithe is the example we will set and hold up for the people of God at Mount Pisgah. The tithe is holy to the Lord and we will lead the people in tithing and be fiscally responsible with the tithes and offerings. We serve a generous God who invites us to love the world with generosity.

- Establish a culture of GENEROUS GIVING
- Biblical standard is the tithe
- Time, Talents, & Money or Work, Wisdom, & Wealth
- Good Stewardship of products of generosity

### **Integrity (2 Corinthians 13.5-7)**

**Mount Pisgah will always demonstrate integrity in all our relationships, our use of God's resources, and all of God's gifts in our lives.** We believe Christians are called to the highest levels of personal and corporate integrity. This will evidence itself in our sexual conduct, financial responsibility, confidentiality, issues of morality, and ethical concerns. There can be no injury to the reputation of the church of Jesus Christ because of the failure of integrity of the staff or lay leaders of Mount Pisgah. While we will approach every situation with the compassion of Christ, we will hold integrity to be of supreme value and will take precedence over feelings of compassion, understanding and forgiveness.

- Personal and Corporate integrity in all relationships
- All aspects of life: sexual conduct; fiscal responsibility; confidentiality; moral issues; ethical concerns
- Can never injure the reputation of the church of Jesus Christ — Staff & Laity
- Integrity takes precedence over compassion, understanding and forgiveness.