# **Mission Statement**

## Baptized in Christ, we spread the Word of God and share His Love.

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## **Vision for Mission**

To live Christ centered—putting Christ first in our lives To love all God has made—ourselves, our families, our church, our neighbors To serve as Christ served— reaching out to those in need

## **Values Statements**

#### Respect:

We treat others with respect. We do not belittle, speak down to, or cause any child of God to feel unloved, or of lower standing than anyone else. We work to build each other up, support one another, and protect everyone from abuse, harm, or destructive forces. We recognize each person as a child of God, and brother or sister of the same heavenly Father regardless of differences among us. We approach all people in love and grace as God approaches us.

### Discipleship:

We do not see each other as fellow members, but as disciples of Christ. We seek to call others to join in following Christ as disciples and partners in the mission Christ has set before us. Our life together, as our lives as individuals, are guided by the Spirit's call to follow where Christ leads us, and serve as he serves.

#### Hospitality:

We reach out beyond our walls (both real and imaginary) to meet those along the way, and welcome them into the fellowship of our community of faith. We practice generosity in our giving to the needs of others sharing of the abundance of blessings we have received, and responding with compassion to those whose lives we touch.

#### Worship:

We recognize the Word and Sacraments as the center of our worship life, and we embrace a variety of expressions of worship styles. We uphold, support, participate in, and encourage the full worship life of our congregation and the church.

#### Education:

We strive to enrich our walk of faith as we grow in our knowledge and understanding of God's mission for us and his church. We recognize the lifetime vocation of encounter with God through study of his Word.

#### Stewardship:

We value the gifts with which God has blessed each of us. We work diligently to honor God by our careful use of these gifts. We hold the value of sharing these gifts as a proper expression of thanksgiving for God's graciousness and love given to us. We strive to learn the value of the Biblical concept of the tithe in our giving practices as a congregation and as disciples of Christ.

### Service and Servanthood:

We recognize Jesus' ministry among us as one of service. As followers of Christ we hear his call to service and servanthood in the world. We make serving others the aim of our work together as we meet the needs of those we have been called to reach and love.

### Teamwork:

We are gathered as the Body of Christ. We are not a collection of individuals brought together, but a single unit called together by the Spirit and united by the Blood of Christ. Our ministry and mission depend on our unity of purpose, and our desire to see beyond differences to find unity. We are called to embrace diversity, and unite in ministry.

# Rules for Guiding the Growth of Our Ministry

- Negative Attitudes have no place in the Church of Jesus Christ. They are self-fulfilling prophecies, and so will not be heard.. "We can't," "It won't," "They don't," and the like are not acceptable attitudes for St. Andrew.
- If you have an idea, it fits with the Mission Statement, Vision, and Values, and you have others who will help get it going, it is worth a try.
- If nobody seems interested in doing something, we stop doing it.
- One person's opinion does not change the course of the whole ministry.
- If you have an opinion about how something ought to be done, be prepared to offer to help to do it.
- No one shall degrade, or debase a part of the ministry they are not involved in or invested in, or are not willing to invest themselves to be a part of first.
- No one shall speak down to or belittle anyone willing to invest themselves, their talents, and their time for God's glory.