First Presbyterian CHURCH

2026
MISSION & VALUES
GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Our Mission

Inspired by Jesus to make the world a better place,
we boldly: nurture faith, encourage curiosity, welcome diversity, and love all.

Our Values

We are a church where:

1. **Faith is boldly nurtured**, in a supportive community learning to live with grace and in service to others.
2. **Curiosity is boldly encouraged.** We do not check our brains at the door - we encourage everyone to ask questions, to come to their own conclusions, and to explore their doubts.
3. **Diversity is boldly welcomed.** No matter our background, cultural practice and history, our economic condition, color of our skin, sexual orientation or gender identity, or our theological or political leanings, together we are richer for it.
4. **All are boldly loved,** following in the example and spirit of Christ - no exceptions.

We exist not for our own comfort but to be Christ's voice, hands, feet, and heart in a hurting world, and we do it with **boldness**. "For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power..." (2 Timothy 1:7). We claim the spirit of Christ to live our faith daily, recognizing that doing so will at times put us at odds with others, even those we care about. Yet we will do so, with boldness, compassion and courage.

These aren't just words to us – they are essential to who we strive to be and how we strive to live. We are a church of Jesus Christ! Jesus loved without exception. He invited people to follow him, took time to teach them, and helped them wrestle with their questions. He even loved Thomas with his doubts. He famously ate with "sinners and tax collectors" and touched the untouchables. Everyone was welcome in his family. At the same time, he confronted the injustices of his day with boldness covered in love. He is our model for our life together and in the world. This guides us as we build relationships and work side by side with each other and our neighbors, near and far, to give hope and make this world a better place.

These values weave through and permeate our goals.

GOAL 1

BE A CARING PLACE TO NURTURE A STRONG FAITH THAT CHANGES LIVES

1. OBJECTIVE A: Individuals experience a strong and comprehensive pastoral care ministry.

2. OBJECTIVE B: Individuals grow in their faith in ways that are meaningful to them.

3. OBJECTIVE C: Individuals participate in service to and with people in the community, locally and beyond.

GOAL 2

BE A BOLD, INCLUSIVE CHURCH COMMUNITY

1. OBJECTIVE A: All people, without exception, have a voice, know they are valued, can participate, and can have leadership roles

2. OBJECTIVE B: Individuals feel safe to participate and be themselves.

GOAL 3

BE A FAITHFUL STEWARD OF THE GIFTS AND RESOURCES GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US.

1. OBJECTIVE A: Budgets reflect faithful stewardship of our financial resources.

2. OBJECTIVE B: Individuals find meaning in contributing to the community and ministry of the church.

GOAL 4

BE A GROWING CHURCH THAT INTENTIONALLY REACHES OUT TO INVITE OTHERS INTO A LOVING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND THE CHURCH

1. OBJECTIVE A: Increase the number of first-time visitors participating in worship services and other church events

2. OBJECTIVE B: Worship: Increase the number of returning visitors attending worship services.

3. OBJECTIVE C: Other Events: Increase the number of returning visitors participating in non-worship church events.