

## Eagle United Methodist Church Mission Statement

***The mission of Eagle United Methodist Church is to Grow Disciples for Jesus Christ.***

We very purposefully chose the word grow as opposed to the word make. We feel that becoming a disciple of Christ is a lifelong process of growth, learning, and change. We believe that, if we allow him to be, God is continually working in our lives to help us become more and more like Jesus Christ.

We believe that helping people to start, and continue this process of becoming disciples represents one of the primary purposes of the church.

We realize that the word Disciple can be confusing, and it is difficult to know exactly what we mean when we say "Disciples of Jesus Christ".

To help clarify this, we have put together a basic list of what we believe are the core beliefs, practices, and virtues of a Disciple. This list presents an ideal, and we affirm that NONE of us have arrived at this ideal. This list provides us with a goal, something to work toward.

### **Virtues**

#### Humility

I act unselfishly and choose to think of others above myself.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Philippians 2:3*

#### Love

I love God above all else, and by following his example I sacrificially and unconditionally love others.

*This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4:10-12*

#### Joy

I have inner contentment and purpose in Christ, no matter my circumstances.

*I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:11-13*

#### Peace

I am free from anxiety and turmoil because God is ultimately in control of my life.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7*

#### Integrity

I choose to act rightly and honestly in my relationships with others.

*The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out. Proverbs 10:9*

#### Patience

I am slow to display temper, and I endure all the unavoidable problems in life calmly and patiently.

*Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret- it leads only to evil. Psalm 37:7,8*

#### Faithfulness

I am reliable and trustworthy in all my commitments to God and to others.

*"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' Matthew 25:23*

#### Self Control

Through Christ, I have the power to control my thoughts and actions.

*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22-24*

#### Hope

I do not despair when I face challenges in life and death because of the hope I have in Jesus Christ.

*But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31*

#### Courage

I have the ability to act on my faith when the situation calls for it.

*Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9*

#### **Discipleship**

*Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?*

*Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Matthew 22:36-39*

## **Beliefs**

### **Bible**

I believe the bible is the inspired word of God and de-serves to have authority over my life. *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16,17*

### **Sin**

I believe in the reality of sin in my life and in the lives of all people, my sinfulness separates me from God, and from others.

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23*

### **Salvation by Grace**

I believe a right relationship with God comes only as a gift given by his grace and received through faith in Jesus Christ.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8,9*

### **Humanity**

I believe all people are loved by God and in need of Jesus Christ as their Savior.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

### **Sanctification**

I believe Christ calls me to be continually transformed into his likeness by cooperating with the work of the Holy Spirit in my life.

*Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Philippians 2:12-13*

### **Trinity**

I believe the God of the bible is the only true God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – one God in three persons.

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

### **Stewardship**

I believe everything I am and everything I have belongs to God. I am temporarily entrusted with them on his behalf.

*Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 1 Timothy 6:17-18*

#### Church

I believe the church is God's primary way to accomplish His purposes on earth today.  
*For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20*

### Practices

#### Worship

I worship God for who he is, and all he has done for me.  
*Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Psalm 95:6-7*

#### Prayer

I strive to be in constant conversation with God - to listen, share my thoughts, and align my will with God's will.  
*"This, then, is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." Mathew 6:9-13*

#### Bible Study

I study the scriptures to learn who God is and who I am; to understand His principles and apply His words in my daily life.  
*I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119: 10,11*

#### Giving

I give away my time, gifts, and resources to fulfill God's purposes.  
*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. Romans 12:1*

#### Evangelism/Sharing Faith

I share with others the good news of God's gift of salvation through Jesus Christ – through my actions, lifestyle and words.  
*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Mathew 28:19-20*

### Christian Fellowship

I meet together with other Christians so we can encourage each other in faith, and join our gifts to accomplish God's purposes in our lives, our community and our world.

*The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. 1 Corinthians 12:13-14*

### Submission

I submit my life completely to God's will, and out of love for God and others I relinquish my need to be right and in control.

*Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. James 4:7, 10*

### Focus

My life is not about me, so I focus my energy on God and his priorities for my life

*But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33*

### Spiritual Gifts

I know my spiritual gifts, and I use them to accomplish God's purposes.

*Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. Romans 12:4, 5*