

Harvest Mennonite Church Core Values Statement

Mr 12:30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

Mr 12:31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Discipleship
Followers, Learners, and Imitators of Jesus
John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.

Christocentric (A Christ centered view of the scriptures)
The OT looking forward to Christ
The Gospels highlighting Christ
The Epistles walking out Christ
The Revelation, the completion of all in Christ
We will therefore allow Jesus to be our interpretive lens through which we understand the scriptures.
Psalm 40:7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Encouragement
We will encourage each other to become intimate with the Lord Jesus, to share together in the extraordinary resurrection power, like the disciples of the early church.
Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Brotherhood
The church is made up of local communities of believers. We are committed to walk and work together, in love and preferential honor.
1 Peter 3:8-9 Finally, all of you be like-minded and sympathetic, love one another, and be compassionate and humble [b] 9 not paying back evil for evil or insult for insult but, on the contrary, giving a blessing, since you were called for this, so that you may inherit a blessing.

Outreach
We understand that the "Great Commission" is to make disciples
We will vigorously and courageously share the gospel of Christ by our life and our words.
Mr 28:19-20 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Transformed Nonconformity
As transformed believers with renewed minds we will pattern our lives after Christ by discernment of what is pleasing to God. We will be conformed, not to the world, but to the perfect will of God.
Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.



Suffering Love
(enemy love, non-resistance, the refusal to take part in any violence)
in obedience to Christ and in accordance with our Anabaptist heritage, in gentle humility we endeavor to live honorably and above reproach, preferring and helping others, and seeking to bring mercy, peace, and reconciliation in all we do.
Ma 5:38-42 You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I tell you, don't resist an evildoer. On the contrary, if anyone slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. As for the one who wants to sue you and take away your shirt, let him have your coat as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to the one who asks you, and don't turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

All our pursuits, choices, and behaviours, will be examined against the two great laws of love.