

## WGC Philosophy of Ministry

(As amended on March 16, 2026)

Teaching/Preaching – We prioritize expository and exegetical teaching from the pulpit. While we encourage our other teachers to teach from Scripture in an expository manner, we allow them freedom in their method. However, all teaching must be based upon the Scripture in accordance with our Articles of Faith.

The Gospel – We emphasize the proclamation of the gospel in our teaching to all age groups, knowing that it is not only the means by which we are saved, but that it is also vital to the life of every believer and their sanctification.

Doctrinal Agreement – We prioritize unity on essential doctrines, liberty on non-essential doctrines and love in all circumstances. Our essential doctrines are defined by our Articles of Faith.

Work of Ministry – Pastors and teachers exist to equip the members of WGC for ministry, not to do all ministry work themselves. We are committed to encouraging our members to understand they have been gifted by the Holy Spirit for ministry, to discover what their gift(s) may be, and to serve the Lord with their gift(s).

Partnership with other Churches – While WGC is a non-denominational community church, we will not exist in isolation, nor will we treat other congregations as competition. We value partnering with like-minded churches, both locally and globally, to fulfill the Great Commission and Great Commandment. We encourage our members to have brotherly/sisterly relationships with believers from other congregations and participate in the ministry of other churches as they see fit and vice versa.

Worship – We view worship as the act of glorifying God by living for him as the only One who is worthy. Worship in song includes our voices and hearts. An important, specific form of worship occurs when believers assemble together for the express purpose of glorifying God in his presence corporately. In this setting, we believe it is imperative that the congregation not be passive spectators but rather active participants in the worship service. This is accomplished by congregational singing as well as congregational participation in corporate prayer, scripture reading, communion, and the offering of our tithes and gifts.

We encourage the use of vocal, musical, and technical gifts with excellence within our corporate worship services for the purpose of highlighting the infinite worthiness of God. We reject pretense and posturing in worship and pursue an atmosphere of authentic personal and corporate encounter with God. Our worship, driven by the good news of salvation in Christ, should reflect the joy, reverence, richness, and power of our salvation and union with the Triune God in its tone and attitude. We prioritize the truths of Scripture in our lyrical choices so that we treasure God's powerful Word and worship him in both spirit and truth. We view songs, old and new, that reflect this philosophy as a valuable part of our Christian heritage.

*Conflict Management* – We are committed to helping our members to love one another well even in the midst of interpersonal conflict according to the precepts of Matthew 18. This requires discussing issues with one another with gentleness and respect as soon as possible. While we understand that resolution and reconciliation are not always possible, this is always our aim.

*Stewardship* – We are committed to stewarding the gifts and resources that the Lord has given us. We prioritize being good and faithful stewards of our finances, our facilities, our ministry opportunities and our time, both corporately and individually.

*Global Outreach* – We prioritize fulfilling the Great Commission, proclaiming to the world that salvation can be found in Jesus Christ alone. We prioritize the promotion of the ministries of our global workers, developing relationships with them, and supporting them both financially and through constant prayer. We prioritize informing the congregation of what the Lord is doing all over the world. We prioritize encouraging the congregation to participate in global outreach and supporting them in those endeavors. WGC is a sending church.

*Fellowship* – We emphasize groups as a means of building authentic community, understanding that life-on-life fellowship with other believers is vital to following the Lord faithfully.

*Leadership* – We value having a plurality in leadership, understanding the wisdom and blessing that comes from having a multitude of counselors. Maturity of godly character and a grounding in the word of God are the primary criteria for leadership.

*Local Outreach/Serving Our Community* – We are committed to serving our local community, coming alongside other local ministries with financial, prayer, and hands on support. We recognize that the Church is called to love the least of these as a means of meeting both temporal and spiritual needs.

*Discipleship* - Discipling is a purposeful and intentional process to bring believers to maturity in Christ. Every believer is on a discipleship journey. As such, we pursue effective education, mentoring, accountability, and practice of Christian principles and disciplines, nurturing our abilities to follow Christ and serve the living God. We accomplish this in both formal settings and personal relationships.

*Member Care* – We seek opportunities to do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. As such, we are committed to caring for one another through every season and situation of life, seeking ways in which we can bear one another's burdens.