

We hope the items below will help you more fully understand Delta and what God has called us to do in Springfield. If you have any questions at all please feel free to ask an elder or email: [info@deltachurch.net](mailto:info@deltachurch.net).

**VISION:** To be a life-giving gospel oasis in the Springfield area. Twenty years from now we will see men and women made new by the gospel, giving life wherever they go, sowing gospel seeds, saturating every sphere of our region. If the Springfield area is a dry and lifeless desert, our people will be like “trees planted by streams of water” (Psalm 1:3) calling the spiritually thirsty to be satisfied in Christ, the living water (John 4:13-14; 7:37). The result will be the transformation of the Springfield area from a spiritual wasteland to a fertile gospel oasis.

**MISSION:** We exist to Make, Mature, and Multiply disciples.

Some Keys to understand Delta:

**JESUS:** We are pro Jesus. We believe Jesus is God, that He became a man, and that faith in His work on the cross is the only sufficient act to save human beings. We believe Jesus lived the perfect life we could not live and died the death that we should have died. Apart from repentance of our individual sins and faith in Jesus’ work, we are all destined for an eternity in Hell. (*John 1:1-5, 14; Gal 2:15-21; Eph 2:1-9; Acts 4:12; Luke 24:47; Rev 14*)

**THE GOSPEL** (literally: GOOD NEWS!): We believe that God created everything in the beginning and it was good. We believe that God created everything for His own glory and for man to enjoy Him forever. However, Adam and Eve rejected God’s rule and reign and decided they didn’t want to submit to God but rather be ‘gods’ themselves. This rejection was the first sin and is the repeated sin that we all make. Scripture says that at our core we are all sinful by nature and fully deserving of God’s wrath. BUT God being rich in mercy sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to live a perfect/sinless life and die a substitutionary death to make a way for us to be reconciled back to God. On the cross Jesus took the wrath for all who would repent and trust in His sacrifice alone for salvation. Jesus then rose on the 3rd day showing that sin and death do not reign, but He does. Jesus then ascended to heaven where He sits at the right hand of God the Father ruling, reigning and interceding for those who believe. (*Eph 2:1-10; Gen 1-3:7; Rom 1-3, 8:31-34; 1 John 2:2, 4:10; 2 Cor 5:16-21; Col 1:16-17; 1 Cor 15:1-5; Hebrews 8:1-6; Luke 24:51*)

**ELDER LED/CONGREGATIONALLY INVOLVED:** We believe the Scriptures outline the best form of church governance to be a plurality of qualified men, whom God calls to be elders/pastors within the local church. Ultimately doctrine, vision, teaching, and community are directed by the elders as they seek to submit to the Scriptures and Jesus as Leader and Head of His church. However, input is given by the leadership team, deacons, and church body to the elders continually. This occurs through monthly leadership meetings and quarterly family meetings with the entire congregation. The congregation also votes to affirm key decisions made by the elders. This input/involvement is invaluable to the elders as they seek to lead Delta to the glory of God. Delta is affiliated with the Southern Baptist denomination. (*Titus 1:5-9; 1 Tim 2:11-3:7; Acts 6:1-7, 20:17; Hebrews 13:7, 17; 1 Peter 5:1-5*)

**COMMUNITY GROUPS:** We believe community is vital to every aspect of the Christian life. Christ died to glorify the Father and to purchase His bride, the church. Biblically the church is to be a pillar of truth as a community on mission to the glory of God. The way we live together as members of Christ’s church is to testify to the mystery of the Gospel and to always overflow into mission in our lives. True Community, is not being around each other ‘x’ days a week but truly seeking to do life together. True community can’t be forced, but must be fought for. It involves time, accountability, vulnerability, rebuke, the Scriptures, forgiveness, service, sacrifice,

and prayer. The way we seek to create environments for this to occur at Delta are through Community Groups. Community Groups are groups of individuals (believers and non-believers alike) that meet in homes on a weekly basis, to do life together and pursue/learn about Jesus. The hope is that the community group night will just be the beginning of the relationships being formed and true community and mission being lived out. (*Heb 3:13, 10:24-25; John 12:27-28; Eph 2:11-3:10, 4:17-32, 5:25-27; 1 Peter 2:9-12; 2 Cor 5:16-21; Romans 12:1-17; 1 Thes 5:13b-18; Acts 2:42-47; Phil 2:3-4; Gal 6:1-8; Luke 17:1-3; James 5:16; 1 Tim 3:15*)

**MISSIONAL:** We believe that if you have been transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you have been sent. You've been sent as a missionary into this world to be a messenger and visible representation of the good news of Jesus Christ in your home, neighborhood, workplace, city, and world. This means that all of life is purposeful and has meaning as we seek to glorify God by proclaiming the freeing work of His Gospel and living for a different King and Kingdom. (*Matthew 28:18-20, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Acts 17:26-27; Titus 2:11-3:8; Luke 10:1-12; 1 Peter 2:9-12*)

**REFORMED:** We are reformed in theology. This means we believe from the Scriptures that God is a sovereign all powerful, all knowing God; who rules all things according to His will and that all things exist for His glory and purposes. It also means that we believe from the Scriptures that man is completely sinful and unable to save themselves. God alone saves according to His choosing/mercy and for His glory. In this we find great hope, assurance, and confidence. (*Psalms 115:3; Eph 1:3-14; 2:1-10; Rom 1-3, 8:1-11, 28-30, 9:1-27; Daniel 4:35, 5:21,23; Col 1:16-17; 2 Tim 1:9; 1 Cor 1:17-31*)

**WORSHIP:** Our Sunday worship services are Gospel-centered. We structure our service in a way to hopefully communicate the might of God, the brokenness of man, Christ's sufficient cross, and our response by the mercy of God. As a general rule we preach straight through books of the bible, seeking to teach the full counsel of God and proclaiming the good news of Christ from the text. We are laid back regarding dress and enjoy spending time together before and after service. (*Acts 20:27; John 5:39-40; 1 Cor 15:1-5; Romans 11:33-36*)

**MEN AND WOMEN:** We are complimentary in our view of men and women. We believe God created man and woman to be equal yet different. We believe both men and women have a vital role in fulfilling God's purpose for mankind on earth and they complement each other in their differences. We believe that men are to be heads of the home and lead their family spiritually while seeking to serve and love their wives as Christ loved the church. In essence we feel each husband is to be the pastor of his home. We believe women are to build their home and respect the husbands in the Lord. In this God is glorified and the Gospel proclaimed. (*Gen 1-2, Prov 14:1; 1 Tim 2:11-3:7; Eph 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Col 3:18-19; Matthew 19:4; 1 Cor 11:1-16*)

**FAMILY:** We believe God has created parents to be the main influencer, teacher, and shaper of their children. We believe the church is to assist and supplement all that the parents are doing, but biblically it is the mother and father's job to raise their children to the Lord. We know that not every situation is ideal in a broken world of sin and divorce, so there are seasons and situations where the church may help carry a greater burden in those times. However, parents' have the responsibility and privilege to tell their children the glories of God and His Gospel, raising them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (*Deut 6:1-9, Eph 5:6-4; Psalm 78:1-8, Book of Proverbs; Hebrews 12:8-11*)

**NEXT STEPS:** If you are wondering about next steps to get more involved in Delta, please consider attending a Community Group, a Newcomer Breakfast, or a Delta Distinctives Class.

***We exist to Make, Mature, and Multiply disciples.***