

Sample Policies for churches, especially for the side of the soccer field labeled “policies” and “values”

GUIDELINES

Purpose

The purpose of our church shall be as originally stated in the Constitution:

Our purpose statement: to glorify Jesus Christ and do what He would do, obeying His great command to love and His Great Commission toward the world.

Our purpose is to love God with all our hearts and to love people as ourselves, and to plan church ministries and activities where this is promoted.

Values

Our values are grace, worship, community, mission, and integrity. Everything we do should support these goals.

The grace value means that we understand and act as if we love God because he first loved us. It all starts with God.

We will teach that salvation is by grace alone and will not add human additives that make it possible.

We will seek to have all of our members and leaders understand what grace really is.

The worship value calls for excellence in our group worship but also teaching and modeling of personal worship.

Will seek to have worship that is glorifying to God and not distracting to people, but engaging them in heartfelt and sincere worship.

We believe that individual worship of God should be taught and modeled and that this church will urge people to devote their hearts to Him that way.

The community value means that we will have groups where true love and community are taught and modeled, with care built into this; but also that we will have that mood for our church gatherings.

We will see tomorrow loving community when we gather as a church.

We will provide opportunities for people to get involved in small groups on Sundays and in homes during the week, where care and community are taught and modeled.

We will seek to have all our groups teach the Bible more than anything else.

The mission value includes that we will know where we are going as a church, to be balanced in our correct theology and loving toward people who differ, and to know particular goals about world missions and local missions. We will be a church that does not seek to reach people of a particular political persuasion but all people as much as possible.

We will seek to have a growing percentage of our church budget be money that ministers outside our church walls.

We will have very clear guidelines for people we will support with our missions budget. These can be worked out by the missions team to be approved by the board.

The integrity value includes strong principles and directives related to finances and morality.

All of our staff will agree to and sign annually a commitment to certain principles related to morality and careful ethics related to their marriage and their practices.

No one will ever be allowed to count money or make decisions about money as an individual. There must be a multiplicity of approved people involved.

We will have clear principles for dealing with the accusations against the staff member related to morality or integrity. If someone has an accusation against the a person on staff, it should be taken to the senior pastor. If there is an accusation against the pastor, it should be taken to the chairman of the board who will work with two other members of the board designated for this, to resolve the situation.

Overall policies

A person must be a member of this church or pursuing membership when they do the following ministries on a regular basis:

Then list them

Financial policies about counting money and allocation of funds through written checks -- the traditional checks and balances are in order.

None of the pastors should handle cash for the church.

Any group and ministry of the church shall have its own policies related to procedures and annual events and people who help, but they are never to contradict the overall policies of the church. The board will be the judge of that.

GOALS

Culture

We will be a church where grace and truth are modeled by staff and leadership.

This will be true and personal way but also in our pulpit or lecterns.

We will take sides on moral issues that are clear in the Bible, but not on political issues. We will not endorse candidates.

We will never make statements or do anything that would have a hint of harassment or racial or ethnic judgment.

We will seek to model love and understanding and all meetings and personally.

We will be open to people of all different backgrounds, limiting membership to people who are faithfully following Christ, but hoping that attendance includes people who disagree and are needing the Savior.

We have a very clear policy on what Christian marriage is and what kind of wedding will it be administered by the church or staff.

We will seek to be fair and are compensation for all staff.

“Product”

If a person attends and is involved in our church over a period of time, we would hope that these characteristics and virtues would be evident in their lives:

(Then list what you believe should be the result of involvement there.)

A strong contributing member of the church.

A positive member of his community.

Someone who witnesses of the grace of Jesus Christ and can explain it.

A giver, who has a systematic way to give to the church and to ministries close to their hearts.

A witness to the grace of Jesus Christ.

A person who loves others and can forgive and serve them.

Someone who likes to worship on a private basis and also with a church.

Someone who serves others, and hopefully has a Ministry in the church.

Someone who speaks the truth with love, and does not gossip or divide.

Someone who is gracious and a joy to be around.

