

Purpose

God's Purpose: Gather – Equip – Send

FLC Purpose: We exist to serve God's purpose in the world to gather, equip and send.

FLC Values

- **Jesus is Lord.**
- **Everyone is welcomed and valued.**
- **Love changes people.**
- **Everyone has gifts to offer.**
- **The world needs what we have.**

Action: Living out God's Purpose, as We extend God's Grace

Deepening Faith: 'Breathing In'

- **Nurturing a Healthy, Thriving, Spiritual Community**
- **Sharing our Gifts**
- **Teaching Adults, Mentoring Children**
- **Worship as a Way of Life**

Strengthening Response: 'Breathing Out'

- **Ending Hunger and Homelessness**
- **Caring for Creation**
- **Inviting, Welcoming, and Caring for Everyone**
- **Increasing Shalom: Peace, Compassion, Healing, Justice, Love, Wholeness, and Reconciliation**

Nurturing a Healthy, Thriving Spiritual Community

- W + 2: Regular Worship + 2 Activities (inside and out)
- Natural Church Development Program (NCD): ongoing survey of congregational health
- Connecting People to Groups
- Open, honest and transparent communication on a regular basis.
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Following the model in Acts 2:41-47, we seek to create a healthy, thriving congregation that nourishes it's life and relationships through worship, prayer, study, generous giving, care giving and service.

Sharing Our Gifts

- Developing Leaders
- Gifts Ministry: identifying strengths
- Developing and nurturing Entrepreneurs
- Exploring transitions in life: 2nd Half, etc.
- Living out our gifts, strengths and passions in the home, congregation and community
- Engaging Volunteers
- Developing Stewards
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Believing that God raises up leaders to work for the coming Kingdom of God, (Exodus 18:21-23, Mark 1:16-20, Acts 6:1-6, and John 13:12-20, 34-35), we seek to identify, recruit, equip and encourage servant leaders in our church.

Teaching Adults, Mentoring Children

- Passing on the Faith: Sunday Morning, Vacation Bible School (VBS), Confirmation, groups, bible studies, day camps, retreats.....
- Home-Congregation connection: equipping / resourcing families to live out their faith each day
- Seekers: looking for a spiritual home
- Equipping Adults to live faithfully in the world
- School for Young Children (SFYC)
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In response to Matthew 28:19, Mark 10:13-16, Deut. 6:4-9, 2 Timothy 3:14-17, we seek to equip adults to live as faithful disciples in the world and to pass the faith on to their children and grand-children.

Worship as a Way of Life

- Authentic: worship services and personal worship feed each other
- Diverse: variety of practices, styles and gifts
- Connected to life: meets life as we know it, helps inspire us Monday through Saturday
- Reaches beyond the building: Grace Reigns Down, GUM, Recording Ministry, community programs (e.g., Unto Us a Child, hosting concerts, events with other congregations)
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Worship lies at the heart of God's people. We need to offer God our thanks and praise and to sense God's presence and love for us.

Personally and together, we strive toward worship practices which engage body, mind and spirit; inspire us to keep God first and foremost in our lives, and move us to offer ourselves in loving service and witness to God's love.

(Ex. 20:8; Ps. 117; 122; Romans 12:1-2)

Ending Hunger and Homelessness

- Shelter meals for homeless
- Greensboro Urban Ministries (GUM)
- Crop Walk
- Mission trips
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hope and Care Teams
- Greensboro Interactive Resource Center
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- Food drives
- Food Assistance
- Housing Rehab
- God's Global Barnyard
- ELCA World Hunger Appeal
- 'ONE' Campaign
- Emergency assistance
- Mobile Meals

Based on Isaiah 58 and Matthew 25:31-40, we commit ourselves to ending homelessness and hunger in our community as we live out the petition to "give us this day our daily bread."

Caring for Creation

- Big Sweep: annual community environmental event
- Recycling
- Energy efficiency
- 'Green' Living
 - Education
 - Rain barrels
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- Stewardship of all our resources
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Based on Genesis 1:28-31, Psalm 104, and Matthew 6:25-33, we seek to work with God in preserving and sustaining the creation in our homes, church, community and world.

Inviting, Welcoming and Caring for Everyone

- EVERYONE is Welcome(d)!
- Inside-Out Hospitality: in here, out of here
- Church as a Center of Community / Community Center:
 - La Vela, 12 step groups, mental health support groups, Scouts, SFYC, Power Squadron,
- Care Ministries
- Welcoming and respecting diverse opinions and views
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Based on Matt. 25:40, John 4, Luke 19, Heb. 13:1, we practice biblical hospitality. We open our hearts, homes and facilities as we invite people to experience God's love, healing and provision in and through our community.

Increasing Shalom:

- Shalom: Healing, Peace, Justice, Wholeness, Wellness, Inclusiveness, Hope, Care of Environment/Ecology, Belonging, Stewardship, Fairness, Hope, Well-being, Equality, Freedom, Love, Forgiveness, Purpose, Ideals, Worth/Value ...
- Seeing God Everywhere
- Becoming and Being God's Peacemakers
- We are a part of receiving and sharing Shalom
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In 2 Cor. 5:17-21, Paul writes that God has entrusted to us the ministry of reconciliation. We get to participate in God's great, ongoing work of restoring the whole creation. This is the work of the cross in our lives. Our purpose is to increase Shalom in the world as we invite people to experience God's reconciling love.

FLC Strategic Planning Steps

