

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

Facing Racism Study 2020

Mission Statements



## What is a Mission Statement and Why Have One?

*From BoardSource © 2013*

“The mission statement clarifies the essence of organizational existence. ... [It] provides the basis for judging the success of the organization and its programs. It helps verify if the organization is on the right track and making the right decisions. It provides direction when the organization needs to adapt to new demands. ... An effective mission statement is concise, to the point, realistic, operational, inspirational, motivational, information, and even emotional.”

## The Great Ends of the Church

*From PC(USA) Book of Order, F-1.0304*

The great ends of the church are:

- The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind
- The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God
- The maintenance of divine worship
- The preservation of the truth
- The promotion of social righteousness
- The exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world

## The Mission of New Faith Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, SC

*From New Faith Facebook page*

The mission of New Faith is to be a loving, faith-filled body of Christians where people’s lives are ***forever changed*** through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ!

## The Mission of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, SC

*From the 2016 Ministry Information Form*

## What is your congregation’s or organization’s Mission Statement?

United by a common faith in Jesus Christ and governed by the essential tenets of faith and polity of the Presbyterian Church (USA), we seek to be a community of faith characterized by diversity and a commitment to spending our time, talents, and resources in mission and ministry, bringing the grace and love of Jesus Christ to those among us and to those beyond us in our community and in our world.

**What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry? Additionally describe how this vision is lived out.**

Vision: Each member of Westminster will have an active role in making a difference in our community and in bringing the grace and love of Christ to those among and beyond us...

- By following the instruction of Christ in study, prayer, and worship;
- By committing ourselves to inspired, passionate and creative ministry and mission;
- By becoming change agents in the community, bringing comfort, respite, and justice to those in need; and
- By reaching out to the un-churched and the de-churched, to spread the grace and love of Jesus to all we encounter.

**How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency?**

We will be remarkable in our diversity, demonstrating a love and respect for all;

- Sharing and practicing PC(USA) theology and polity;
- Walking the path of peace and reconciliation through service, compassion, and tolerance;
- Learning from and participating with our sister PC(USA) churches and Presbytery in achieving common goals and mission;
- Growing as a purposeful congregation by constantly looking forward rather than backward; and
- Sharing facilities and other resources with the community to fill gaps in service needs.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Review New Faith and Westminster's mission statements, and compare/contrast with the Great Ends of the Church. What are some similarities? How are we doing in fulfilling our missions and the Great Ends?
2. What elements from Micah 6:8 are apparent in our mission statements? ("...What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?")
3. Where has The Church been successful in promoting social righteousness, and where has it been less successful in doing that?

*Link to download the PC(USA) Book of Confessions:*

[https://www.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/boc2016.pdf](https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/boc2016.pdf)