

# VISION VALUES VOCABULARY VEHICLES



(Matthew 22:37, 1 John 4:7-11, 1 John 3:1)

## VISION

That we would be a community that is fearlessly loved by God and loves others fearlessly. That every single person individually as well as collectively would daily and purposefully be cultivating a deeply intimate, deeply rooted, ever flowing and growing union with the Triune Godhead, entering daily into the Trinitarian Dance of love, intimacy, grace, and interdependence. Our vision is that every person, young and old, would be intimately acquainted with the multi-dimensional Love of God, and that from that Love every person would strive to enter into that same type of relational dance and respect with one another in community. And because each person, young and old, has a deep and abiding union with the Trinity and understands that they are completely and fully loved, they in turn burn with an intense desire to share this I ove with others.

We love because He first loved us

1John 4:16-19

## **CORE VALUES**

We receive and offer God's grace abundantly We value and respect all people equally We stay at the table We embrace learning and discovery We multiply leaders

## We receive and offer God's grace abundantly

**Because** God meets us where we are, we meet people where they are. **Demonstrated by** acceptance and hope.

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many...

#### Romans 5:15-21

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4:16

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith —and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast. **Ephesians 2:8-9**  We see in the Gospels that when we were far off from God and lost, God so loved the world that He sent His one and only son. God sent His son to meet us right where we were and are at.

He sent His son to set us free from the sin and death that separated us from God. Romans 5:6-11: John 3:16

#### We value and respect all people equally

*Because* everyone was created in God's image. *Demonstrated by* listening while giving dignity.

Throughout the Gospels we see Jesus continuously going to those on the margin of society. He crossed societal gender and religious boundaries in order to share about the Kingdom of God, God's Truth, and show his Love towards each one. Matt 5, Lk5:27, Lk 10:41, Jn 4:7 After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. **Revelation 7:9** 

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right." Acts 10:34-35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

#### We stay at the table

*Because* relationships are core to abundant life. *Demonstrated by* perseverance through tension and differences.

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being likeminded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind...

#### Philippians 2:1-11

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up... Romans 15:1-6 The table that Jesus has prepared for us is seen in the accounts of the Lord's supper in the gospels. Jesus invites everyone to his table. The table that Jesus has prepared for us is more than a table where we sit and eat with him, it is the table where his family sits, the table of his people. Staying at the table with others is not easy, but if we are to follow Jesus, we must learn to stay at the table relationally. Luke 22:14-20

#### We embrace learning and discovery

Because growth comes through exploration. Demonstrated by an openness to learn, a willingness to fail, and an eagerness to keep trying.

In the Gospels we see Jesus encouraging his followers to take his yoke upon them and to learn from him. We also see Jesus continuously teaching his disciples and then sending them out to practice what he taught, and then calling them apart to rest and share their stories. Jesus spent three years teaching, training and reviewing. Mark 11:29 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. **Romans 12:2** 

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. Acts 17:11

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me..." Matthew 11:28-30

#### We multiply leaders

**Because** each of us has been given a gift to live God's Story. **Demonstrated by** training by using various vehicles for the empowerment of every person.

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people." ...So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets,

the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

#### Ephesians 4:7-13

... Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone... select capable men from all the people... and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. Have them serve as judges for the people at all times...

Exodus 18:13-27

From the beginning to the end of the gospels we see that Jesus called his disciples not just to follow Him but also to lead others within our sphere of influence. We see this in the first words of Jesus to his disciples, "follow me and I will send you out to fish for people," and in his last words, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 4:19; 28:19

## Statement of Inclusion

CCF is a Christ-centered community that welcomes all people.

We focus on Jesus as the center of our faith and experience, accepting the call to take up our cross and follow him. As we set our eyes on the Trinity, we can move beyond the challenging experiences or disagreements many have had with institutional, personal, or political expressions of Christianity.

We "stay at the table", willing to trust the Holy Spirit in ambiguous situations without letting our differences drive us from each other. This allows us to inclusively welcome and empower people who disagree on controversial issues but are pursuing the same center: Christ.

CCF is an inclusive, diverse community dedicated to multiplying leaders, encouraging all people to engage in full participation and leadership regardless of, but not limited to, age, race, class, sex, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or ability.

Together our mission as a community is to love God and love others fearlessly.

## VEHICLES

Celebration Gatherings

(Temple\*) Joining together to celebrate God.

#### CORE:

Sunday Service - 8:30am & 10am Services 10am service streamed online through the CCF Facebook page Tuesday Prayer, monthly

#### SUPPLEMENTAL:

Special Worship Events Special Prayer Events

Community Groups

(Oikos\*) Engaging in community life and caring for one another. CORE:

Community Groups

#### SUPPLEMENTAL:

Recovery Group, Men, Women, LGBTQIA+, Children, Youth, etc. New Members, Family Events Free Soup Fridays, Community Potlucks Artist Consortium

Leadership Training

Being a community that multiplies leaders.

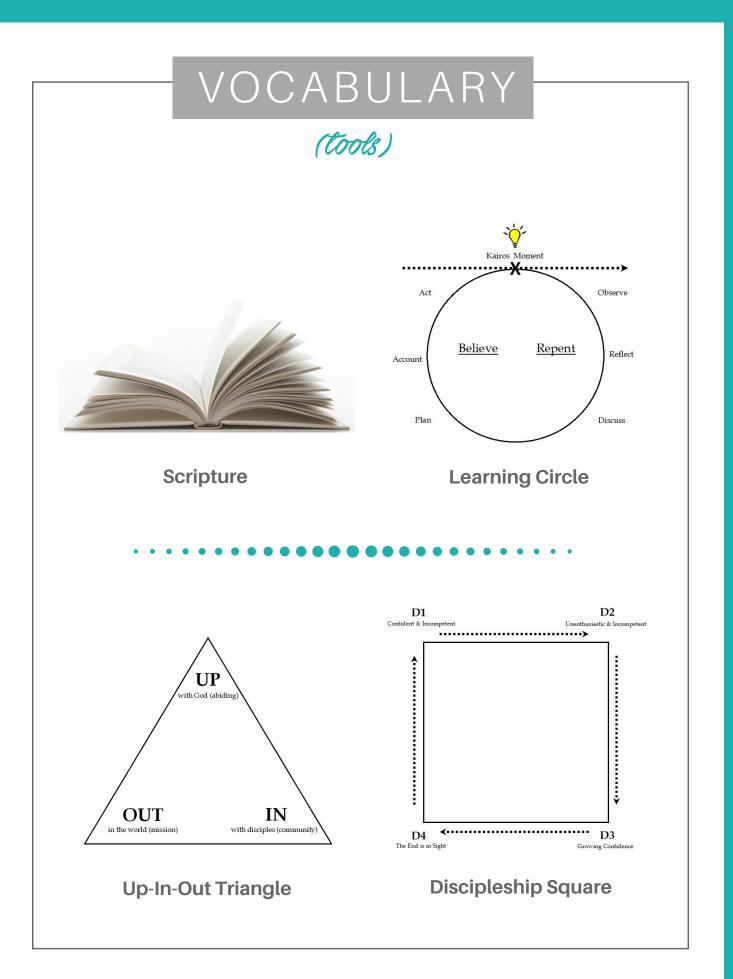
#### CORE:

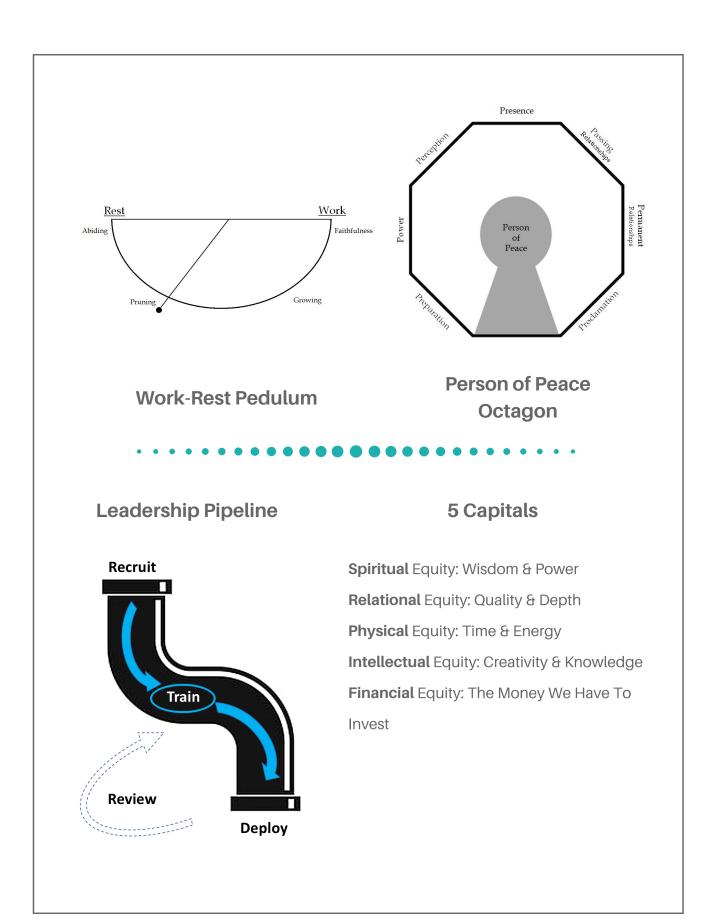
Internship Program

#### SUPPLEMENTAL:

Elder & Deacon Training Pastoral Team Training Leadership Meetings & Retreats Staff Training All Ministry Areas Training Worship Forum

\*See definitions for Temple and Oikos on Vocabulary Page





## **Temple & Oikos**

Temple & Oikos is a new concept for a lot of people. The early church regularly met in both the temple and in households (Greek: oikos literally means household). It's that tension of participating in the both the larger congregation setting and in the small community setting that is missing in a lot of churches today.

#### We are intentional about both.

Our larger corporate setting is the Sunday weekend gathering and our smaller community setting are households and house churches that meet throughout the region. In gatherings, we engage in the ministry of Word and Worship. In households, we engage in community life as we care for and love one another as Jesus commanded us (John 13:34-35).

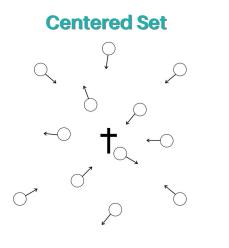
#### **Respect Model**

- **R** Take **RESPONSIBILITY** for what you say and feel without blaming others
- Use **EMPATHETIC** listening
- **S** Be **SENSITIVE** to differences in communication styles
- **PONDER** what you hear and feel before you speak
- **EXAMINE** your own assumptions and perceptions
- Keep **CONFIDENTIALITY** 
  - TRUST ambiguity

#### **Centered Set vs Bounded Set**

Cornerstone is organized as a centered set community. We sink wells rather than build fences.

We focus on Jesus as the center of our faith and experience, accepting the call to take up our cross and follow him. As we set our eyes on the Trinity, we can move beyond the challenging experiences or disagreements many have had with institutional expressions of Christianity.



- Strong ideology at the center, no boundaries
- Hard at the center, soft at the edges
- Sink wells and sustain connection with the water source and ensure others can get to it
- Allows people to orient towards Jesus from any distance and from any direction
- Aim in mission is to fully present Jesus and to facilitate that vital connection

# Bounded Set

- Clearly delineated boundaries, no strong ideological center
- Soft at the center, hard at the edges
- Builds fences so it is clear who is "in" and who is "out"
- Allows people to enter only if they follow moral and cultural codes and affirm specific beliefs
- Difficult to negotiate all the barriers to get
  "in"



Cornerstone Christian Fellowship 426 W. Gay St. West Chester, PA 19380 610-430-3508 cornerstonewestchester.com



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