

I. MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LAKE OF THE WOODS CHURCH

The Mission of The Lake of the Woods Church is to worship God; witness to God's saving love in Jesus Christ; teach and preach the Gospel to all ages effectively; be a ministering community through Christ reconciling man to God and men to each other in all the world, and especially in Lake of the Woods and the surrounding communities.

II. VISION STATEMENT OF THE LAKE OF THE WOODS CHURCH

The vision and purpose of The Lake of the Woods Church is to teach and preach the Gospel and equip every member and all who come to our church, to become mature, ministering, and worshiping disciples of Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen

III. CORE VALUES

1. Keeping the main things the main thing:

Our focus is on the person, work, and message of Jesus Christ. We take seriously that He is our life and binds us together. We pursue unity. We do not rely upon uniformity to accomplish this, but upon the Holy Spirit. We are a church for all believers and focus on those powerful essentials that all believers embrace.

2. Every member in ministry:

We are a congregation of ministers. The ministry belongs to the laity. We are saved to serve. True spiritual maturity cannot be attained unless we are channels of God's love. God has gifted each member of the body to serve. As each one serves the church it is empowered to achieve its mission. People will have a sense of belonging and ownership.

3. Need-oriented ministry:

A need-driven ministry program takes seriously the needs of people in the church and community and develops ministries to address them. We seek to be sensitive to the needs of people across the life span. The needs may be physical, spiritual, emotional, or relational. Needs are not merely preferences or wants, but rather usually involve such things as struggles, questions, or hungers. We seek to meet the needs of the healthy and the unhealthy alike.

4. Mission minded:

Christ was a missionary who was sent out to a world He loved. We too are sent by God to impact Lake of the Woods, the surrounding communities, and the uttermost parts of the earth. We see the world as our field and the local areas as our focus. Our church has a calling to impact the world and win the community to Christ. Youth and children are a key to accomplishing both of these callings. We realize most of our youth will live most of their Christian life somewhere else. Through them we embrace the world with the Gospel.

5. Worship driven:

It is our role as a church to offer glory, praise, honor, and worship to God. We seek to give many opportunities for our people to worship. All service to God is founded on a vital worship of God. We affirm various styles of worship.

6. The professional staff is to equip others:

Pastors/ministers are to equip others for the work of the ministry. Program staff are not to take work from the laity, but give work to them. The following styles are encouraged: delegating, mentoring, training and teaching, recruiting encouraging, giving responsibility and authority while asking for accountability, and team building.

7. Leadership:

Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, the Chief Shepherd, the Lord of the Church. Under His leadership we are elder ruled, laity run and pastor led.