

#winfmc

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# Community Growth Track

win**301**

vision & values

Understand our vision – where we are headed – and our values – the core ideals that enable us to achieve our vision.

## Our Purpose

Our purpose as a church answers the question of **WHY** – why do we exist.

As the Washington Free Methodist Church, we exist to

**live and love like Jesus and to help others do the same**

Our purpose as a church comes from two very important truths – the two greats - that Jesus left all of His followers with.

### The Great Commandment

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

Mark 12:30-31

### The Great Commission

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

Matthew 28:19-20

## Our Mission

Our mission as a church answers the question of **HOW** – how do we achieve what God has called us to.

Our mission is to

**live, love, and serve like Jesus**

Our mission as a church reminds us of our purpose and keeps us focused on our vision and our values.

# Our Leadership

## Denominational Leadership

The Free Methodist Church USA is led by a Board of Bishops who give leadership and direction to the denomination. Our current Bishops are Matthew Whitehead, Keith Cowart, and Linda Adams. Kendall. Our Board of Bishops are elected to four year terms with elections being held at our General Conference every four years.

The Wabash Conference (our regional conference) is led by Superintendent John Lane who gives leadership and direction to the churches in the Wabash Conference; every Free Methodist Church throughout Indiana as well as the Free Methodist Churches in southeastern Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

## Local Church Leadership

Our leadership system is arranged under two general headings.

### Word Ministries

Students, Children, Prayer, Worship, Pastoral Care, Connections, Discipleship, Outreach

Our Word Ministries are led by our team of Ministers and Pastors.

### Works Ministries

Properties, and Finance

Our Works Ministries are led by our Board of Trustees and Board of Finance and overseen by our Board of Administration.

## Our Vision

Our vision as a church answers the question of **WHERE** – where are we going

As the Washington Free Methodist Church, we seek to become...

**A community of committed and faithful followers of Jesus who live, love, and serve with passion and purpose.**

*Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.*

1 Corinthians 12:12

*Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.*

1 John 2:6

Our vision as a church is our promised land – the goal to which God has called us to as His church in Washington, Indiana.

*For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

Romans 12:4-13

## Our Values

Our values as a church answers the question of **WHAT** – what tools will we use to help us achieve our vision.

As the Washington Free Methodist Church, we value **Biblical Obedience, Engaged Worship, Servant Ministry, Intentional Discipleship, and Authentic Relationships**

Our values as a church are the filter through which every ministry is evaluated.

**Biblical Obedience** – We will not compromise the Scriptures. We will obey the commands and honor the promises of the Bible.

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16

*Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*

James 1:22

**Engaged Worship** – We believe that worship is what we do as well as what we are. We will offer all that we do and all that we are to God as acts of worship at all times,

*But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.*

John 4:23-24

*I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.*

Romans 12:1

**Servant Ministry** – We will serve others with humility and love. We will honor the needs of others above ourselves.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 2:3-5

*Jesus called them together and said, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

Matthew 20:25-28

**Intentional Discipleship** – We will be purposeful in our teaching, training, and sending to raise up disciples who raise up disciples.

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

Matthew 28:19-20

*Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. "*

Luke 9:23

*We are Christ's ambassadors, as if God were making his appeal through us.*

2 Corinthians 5:20

**Authentic Relationships** – We will be open, honest, and accountable in our relationships – inside and outside of the church – seeking peace and love.

*Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

Ephesians 4:2-3

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*

John 13:34-35

## Next Steps

### Vision & Values

1. Read through our "Membership Covenant" and consider becoming a covenant member of WINFMC.
2. Complete the final step of the Community Growth Track

win**401** – passion & purpose

## Washington Free Methodist Church Membership Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior, having confirmed my relationship through baptism, and being in agreement with the vision and values of the Washington Free Methodist Church, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Washington Free Methodist Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

1. I will protect the unity of my church:

By acting in love toward other members.

By refusing to gossip.

By following the leaders.

*So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of one another's character.*

Romans 14:19

*Live in complete harmony with each other—each with the attitude of Christ toward the other.*

Romans 15:5

*Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.*

1 Peter 1:22

*Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs.*

Ephesians 4:29

*Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.*

Hebrews 13:17

2. I will share the responsibility of my church:

By praying for its growth and health.

By inviting the unchurched to attend.

By warmly welcoming those who visit.

*To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:1-2

*Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full.*

Luke 14:23

*So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.*

Romans 15:7

3. I will serve the ministry of my church:

By discovering my gifts and talents.

By being equipped to serve by my pastors.

By developing a servant's heart.

*Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you.*

1 Peter 4:10

*So Christ himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.*

Ephesians 4:11-12

*Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...taking the form of a bondservant.*

Philippians 2:4-5, 7

4. I will support the testimony of my church:

By attending church and small groups faithfully.

By living a godly life.

By giving regularly.

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

Acts 2:42

*Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another.*

Hebrews 10:25

*But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ.*

Philippians 1:27