

## NEW HOPE CHURCH

### SESSION PHILOSOPHY AND COMMITMENT

We are one body, a union of hundreds of people with a common bond which is faith in the power, authority and grace of God the Father, Jesus Christ the son and savior, and the Holy Spirit our teacher and guide. We have a collective belief that we are one body in Christ with a common purpose: honoring the great commission given to us by Christ to "Go forth into all the world making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost." Our mission is to glorify God and make disciples by living out the gospel together. In doing so, our core values are lavish grace, foundational truth, caring community, transforming growth, and strategic action.

Although we come together with passions and interests of our own, we share a common commitment to our existence as one church, one unified body of Christians with two styles of worship, both of which honor and glorify God the Father. We remember that the early churches had multiple styles of worship and met in various places from the Temple to private homes. As members of one church we love, respect and support both traditional and contemporary styles of worship, and that means we pray for, invest in, represent, engage, and value each expression. As Elders and as a congregation we vow to model that mindset. Together as one body in Christ we honor the commandment to "Love the Lord our God with all our hearts, all our minds and with all our souls" and to love our neighbor as ourselves." This is how we "Glorify God by making disciples and living out the Gospel together."

We believe that leadership is an action, not a position, and that people of action look beyond perceived limitations and develop visions for the future in recognition of Proverbs 29:18 "Where there is no vision, the people perish." We believe in the principle of servant leadership as Jesus gave us a model when he said, "I came to serve not to be served," Mark 10:45". We believe that a leader can serve the church by motivating others to become leaders and co-leaders as we develop a culture that seeks a dynamic vision for New Hope Church, a vision that looks into the future with enthusiasm about its relevance in a rapidly changing society.

We are a church that is ready for action! We are ready to pray up, stand up, speak up and challenge the future with faithfulness, determination, and commitment. With God as our guide, we are going to prepare New Hope Church to be a relevant voice for Christianity in our present and future societies by providing the preaching and teaching to change hearts for Christ and make disciples. We believe that New Hope Church will be a dynamic, exciting and welcoming place to worship and serve our God.