

## **HAINES PREBYTERIAN CHURCH CORE VALUES**

We believe that these core values express what God wants HPC to be and do. They are built first upon the Bible, the inspired and authoritative Word of God. Second, they are informed by the Essential Tenets of Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, which serves as the doctrinal authority of everything we do.

### **WORSHIP**

HPC seeks to be a community that incorporates worship in everything that we do. Though worship begins on Sunday morning, it does not end there. God is central to our lives; therefore, His worship is central to our lives.

We believe worship is first and foremost about God. It is coming into His presence and responding to His majesty, grace, and love in praise, gratitude, and adoration.

We believe worship should be inspirational, grounded in the Scripture, honoring to God the Father, centered on Jesus Christ, and led by the Holy Spirit. It should be joyful, reverent, and expectant.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

HPC seeks to be a family of believers where biblical fellowship is a growing reality; a church family where we know both God and one another well.

We believe fellowship is much more than meals and coffee. It is *koinonia*, (koi-no-nia) the spiritual bond established by God between believers when He made us a part of His family in Jesus Christ.

We believe *koinonia* is a relationship that must be nurtured as we learn to love, trust, respect, and support one another. It grows through the shared experiences of worshiping, learning, praying, eating, and doing ministry together. Fellowship also grows through learning to share our faith and deepest needs with one another.

## **DISCIPLESHIP**

HPC seeks to be a church committed to being and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

We believe discipleship is a lifelong process of maturing in our relationship with our Lord through the power of the Holy Spirit. As students of Christ, we grow in the knowledge and understanding of who God is and what the Bible teaches, including the essential tenets of Christian doctrine. Even more, it means growing in our love of God and of one another and reaching out to those in our community who do not know Him.

We believe discipleship is done best in community where we come alongside one another in relationships of mentoring and accountability, being examples to one another as Jesus set the example for His disciples.

## **SERVICE**

HPC seeks to be a community where believers are equipped for service to the body of Christ and the world.

We believe all Christians are called to serve. Each is born with God-given natural talents and born again with spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit. Both are to be used in service as a gift to God and a witness to the new life we have in Jesus.

We believe the church should be a community where Christians see themselves as ministers, are encouraged to discover and develop both their natural talents and spiritual gifts and then empowered to use them in service.

## **MISSION/EVANGELISM**

HPC seeks to be a community where all members see themselves as missionaries.

We believe every Christian is an ambassador of Jesus Christ called to proclaim His message of forgiveness and hope to those who do not know

Him, and to those who are sick, hurting, or lost.

We believe the church should be a community that exists in part for those who are not already involved in our fellowship. Though God expects us to take care of one another in the body of Christ, we believe that to fulfill the great commission, we should have an outward focus as well—both locally and worldwide.

## **SMALL GROUPS**

HPC seeks to be a community where small groups are a vital tool to fulfill our church values.

We believe spiritual growth often happens in the context of small groups where people can share their faith and lives and be accountable to one another.

We believe the command to love and build one another up in the faith is fulfilled through small groups that include worship, fellowship, Bible study, service, and evangelism.

## **INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

HPC seeks to be a church that values people from every generation.

We believe friendships and relationships of mutual honor and respect can be formed among people of all ages. We value the unique contributions that are made to our fellowship by young, old, and everyone in-between.

We are willing to patiently and lovingly be together as a church family, putting aside our personal preferences when needed.

## **ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS**

HPC seeks to be a vital part of the whole Christian church in Haines.

We believe Christ's church includes all those who have responded to His call to believe in Jesus as savior and Lord and is not limited to one denomination. Though we are Presbyterian and strongly affiliated with ECO (A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians), we are first and foremost followers of Jesus Christ, and therefore we are joined with all true believers from every time, place, and Christian denomination.

We believe it is important to promote cooperation and unity with the other churches in Haines through common efforts of worship, fellowship, and service. By working with other churches, we believe we are obeying God's command to build His kingdom as well as fulfilling our own core values.

October 2018