

## MPVCC Church Profile

Our mission, "Bringing heaven to Earth," characterizes our desire for God's kingdom, reign and rule to break into our everyday lives. Or, as one author has put it, we seek to be "naturally supernatural." In our decision-making, small groups, prayer ministry and worship services, we seek to align ourselves with what we see and hear the Father doing. We give time for the presence and work of the Holy Spirit through prayer ministry and openness to prophetic words and wisdom in our worship services, home groups, and Biblical counseling.

Though all our Core Values are important to us, the most identifying characteristic of our church is our love for worship. We do not see our worship time as a warm up for the message; instead we seek the presence and power of the Lord to be released during our worship of Him. Dancing, shouting, and crying all occur during our worship times. Visitors have been heard to say, "I don't know why, but I just couldn't stop crying during the worship."

We value solid, Biblical teaching. Currently, we have a team of four people (three men and one woman) who rotate teaching on Sunday morning for a month each. Each of them has a passion for God's Word to be presented powerfully, accurately and intelligently. As 64% of our church reports having been a Christian for over 20 years, there is a desire and a need for structures within our church that help mature believers to continue growing in discipleship. Many have expressed a hunger for more opportunities for studying God's Word at our church.

We are a church of small groups. Almost two-thirds of our church attends a small group at least twice a month. We strongly believe that the life of the church happens in the context of community, primarily through our home groups, but also through even more intimate accountability groups and friendships that naturally spring out of our home groups, women's ministry, recovery groups, etc. Our home groups are a place for people to grow in spiritual and emotional maturity through relationship with one another. They are also a safe place for people to seek God's spiritual gifts and to grow in their callings. Our church has the not uncommon ratio of 60% women to 40% men. More significant, though, is the difference between the presence of an active and vibrant women's ministry and a virtually non-existent men's ministry. Attracting and discipling men are significant needs of our church.

Children and youth have always been central to our church. We started the church in San Mateo with 40 adults and 44 children; currently, close to half our church have children under 18 living in their household. We now staff a half-time children's pastor who oversees a children's ministry team, including a worship leader, curriculum planners, teachers and assistants. We want our children to know that they are the church of today and to experience God's kingdom in their lives. A present need for our church is the re-establishment of a consistent youth (middle and high school) ministry. While many have given generously of themselves to the youth during recent years, frequent changes in leadership, a lack of consistency and other factors have kept us from offering our youth the same quality of ministry that our younger children receive.

We enjoy being together in our informal environment. In a recent survey of our church, 80% of respondents said they felt “very much,” or “quite a bit” like they belong or are accepted at MPVCC. The phrase “Come as you are, you’ll be loved” along with an old pair of tennis shoes characterized our early years, and indeed often visitors have remarked on how warmly they were welcomed. Our current vision statement is “Learning to Love Well”; we are seeking to grow in loving God, loving others and loving our selves as God love us.

Though we are located in San Carlos, we are more of a regional than a neighborhood church. More than a quarter of the church travels through several cities or across the San Francisco Bay to come to our church. Similarly, our church demographics more closely match the broader region we are in – San Mateo County – than the city of San Carlos. We value diversity in its many forms: ethnic, economic, life backgrounds etc. Interestingly, most of our current Board and elders are minorities or in racially mixed marriages. One-third of the church is of non-Caucasian background. Many people from recovery backgrounds find our church a place where they can fit in. Graduates of Berkeley and Stanford lay aside their rivalries to worship here. A sampling of our congregation includes a homeless woman, an Oracle executive, a substitute teacher, a Stanford physician, a yoga teacher, an astrophysicist, a missionary with Jews for Jesus and a wide array of people in the trades, technical fields and professional fields. Around 30% of our church have completed Bachelor’s degrees and another 30% have completed a Master’s or PhD. Over the last few years, we have grown less diverse in the ages of our members than we would like to be.

Currently, two-thirds of our congregation are in their 40’s or 50’s, while only around 7% are college aged or in their 20’s. The lack of a ministry for college aged or 20-somethings at our church is a significant area that needs addressing.

Being in the Bay Area makes for an ever-interesting mix of people. While some have lived their entire life on the Peninsula, others grew up in Africa and Asia. Some are here from Europe for a few years in a graduate program; others have moved here from all over the US because of a job transfer. Being in a highly transitory area means that often people are only with us for about four years before their job moves them on; however, we have a very faithful and committed core including several families that have been in this church since its inception over 20 years ago. We always have visitors, and over 40% of our congregation has joined us in the last five years. We are often challenged by the conflicting needs of our many new believers or people who are in the church for only a few years and the needs of those for whom this is their long-term church home.

The Mid-Peninsula Vineyard stands poised for significant growth. We have been through a year and a half of transition that has challenged and strengthened us, offering many newfound freedom and opportunity to step out in our gifts and callings. Our leadership, including a Pastoral Team, Ministry Leaders, Staff and the Board, is involved and committed on a much deeper level than ever before in the history of our church and wants to keep working as a team with our new Pastor. We feel we have the potential for numerical growth as well; after years of pushing up against the 200 barrier (i.e. having a weekly attendance of around 200), our Sunday morning attendance during the transition has been between 120 and 150.



## Information Packet for Pastoral Applicant

Though people do “come as they are,” our desire is that they leave changed. Whether through the worship, the relationships, the ministry of the Holy Spirit, the teaching or something else, we desire that people who come to our church encounter the living God and see His people seeking to live out their faith in an authentic and passionate way. In this way, we seek to bring heaven to Earth.



## MPVCC – A Brief History

In the early 1980's, Calvary Chapel San Francisco was birthed out of a UCSF student Bible study. With a change in leadership in 1990 came a change in affiliation, resulting in New Life Vineyard Christian Fellowship.

In 1994, about 40 adults felt led by God to follow the leadership in transplanting the church south to San Mateo. Our mission was “To make authentic, enthusiastic followers of Jesus.” As it grew in size, the San Mateo Vineyard met in local schools for several years until it settled in its present location in San Carlos (now Mid- Peninsula Vineyard Christian Church). Finally having a permanent venue enabled the church to more effectively execute its goals of drawing and equipping people for ministry, sending out church plants, and supporting ministries and mission groups.

As we have continued to grow over the last several years, MPVCC has been building relationships with the San Carlos community, seeking to establish a favorable presence in the area through service and outreach. We value community and encourage people to get involved in one of our many small groups that meet weekly in homes. We also highly value worship, often being characterized with a “Mary spirit,” meaning one of devotion to and worship of the Lord.



## Association of Vineyard Churches – Statement of Faith

### 1. God the King and the Holy Trinity

WE BELIEVE that God is the Eternal<sup>1</sup> King<sup>2</sup>. He is an infinite<sup>3</sup>, unchangeable<sup>4</sup> Spirit,<sup>5</sup> perfect<sup>6</sup> in holiness<sup>7</sup>, wisdom<sup>8</sup>, goodness<sup>9</sup>, justice<sup>10</sup>, power<sup>11</sup> and love<sup>12</sup>. From all eternity<sup>13</sup> He exists as the One<sup>14</sup> Living<sup>15</sup> and True<sup>16</sup> God in three persons<sup>17</sup> of one substance,<sup>18</sup> the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit<sup>19</sup>, equal in power and glory<sup>20</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Deuteronomy 33:27; Romans 1:20; <sup>2</sup>Psalms 95:3; Isaiah 43:15; <sup>3</sup>Psalms 147:5; Job 11:7-9; <sup>4</sup>James 1:17; <sup>5</sup>John 4:24; <sup>6</sup>Matthew 5:48; <sup>7</sup>Isaiah 6:3; <sup>8</sup>1 Peter 1:15-16; <sup>9</sup>Psalms 104:24; Proverbs 2:6; Isaiah 28:29; <sup>10</sup>Exodus 33:19; <sup>11</sup>Psalms 63:2; <sup>12</sup>Psalms 31:19; <sup>13</sup>Psalms 33:5; <sup>14</sup>Psalms 89:14; <sup>15</sup>Isaiah 30:18; <sup>16</sup>Exodus 15:6; <sup>17</sup>John 4:8; <sup>18</sup>Isaiah 43:13; <sup>19</sup>Isaiah 45:5; <sup>20</sup>1 Corinthians 8:4; <sup>21</sup>Psalms 42:2; <sup>22</sup>Psalms 84:2; <sup>23</sup>Jeremiah 10:10; <sup>24</sup>John 1:18; <sup>25</sup>John 10:30; <sup>26</sup>John 14:9; <sup>27</sup>John 14:16-17; <sup>28</sup>John 14:26; <sup>29</sup>John 15:26; <sup>30</sup>2 Corinthians 3:17-18; <sup>31</sup>John 1:1; <sup>32</sup>John 1:14; <sup>33</sup>2 Corinthians 3:17; <sup>34</sup>Matthew 28:19-20; <sup>35</sup>2 Corinthians 13:14; <sup>36</sup>Revelation 1:4; <sup>37</sup>Revelation 5:13; <sup>38</sup>Ephesians 3:14-21

### 2. God the King: The Creator and Ruler of All Things

WE BELIEVE that God's kingdom is everlasting.<sup>21</sup> From His throne,<sup>22</sup> through His Son, His eternal Word,<sup>23</sup> God created,<sup>24</sup> upholds<sup>25</sup> and governs<sup>26</sup> all that exists:<sup>27</sup> the heavenly places,<sup>28</sup> the angelic hosts,<sup>29</sup> the universe,<sup>30</sup> the earth,<sup>31</sup> every living thing<sup>32</sup> and mankind.<sup>33</sup> God created all things very good.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Psalm 45:6; <sup>22</sup> Psalm 145:13; <sup>23</sup> Daniel 4:3; <sup>24</sup> Psalm 93:1-2; <sup>25</sup> John 1:1-3; <sup>26</sup> 1 Corinthians 8:6; <sup>27</sup> Colossians 1:15-16; <sup>28</sup> Hebrews 1:1-2; <sup>29</sup> Genesis 1:1; <sup>30</sup> Psalm 95:3-5; <sup>31</sup> Colossians 1:17; <sup>32</sup> Hebrews 1:3; <sup>33</sup> Psalm 103:19; <sup>34</sup> Psalm 104:24-29; <sup>35</sup> Psalm 96:4-6; <sup>36</sup> Psalm 89:11; <sup>37</sup> Psalm 103:20-21; <sup>38</sup> Colossians 1:16-17; <sup>39</sup> Psalm 104:5; <sup>40</sup> Psalm 103:22; <sup>41</sup> Psalm 22:28; <sup>42</sup> Psalm 47:8; <sup>43</sup> Genesis 1:31

### 3. Counterfeit Kingdom: Satan and Demonic Hosts

WE BELIEVE that Satan, originally a great, good angel, rebelled against God, taking a host of angels with him.<sup>35</sup> He was cast out of God's presence and, as a usurper of God's rule, established a counter-kingdom of darkness<sup>36</sup> and evil on the earth.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>35</sup> Revelation 12:7-9; <sup>36</sup> 2 Corinthians 11:14; <sup>37</sup> Colossians 1:13-14; <sup>38</sup> Ephesians 6:12; <sup>39</sup> Mark 3:22-26; <sup>40</sup> Ephesians 2:1-2; <sup>41</sup> 1 John 5:19

### 4. The Kingdom in the Creation of Man, the Fall and The Doctrine of Original Sin

WE BELIEVE that God created mankind in His own image, male and female,<sup>38</sup> for relationship with Himself and to govern the earth.<sup>39</sup> Under the temptation of Satan,<sup>40</sup> our original parents fell from grace,<sup>41</sup> bringing sin,<sup>42</sup> sickness<sup>43</sup> and God's judgment of death to the earth.<sup>44</sup> Through the fall, Satan and his demonic hosts gained access to God's good creation.<sup>45</sup> Creation now experiences the consequences and effects of Adam's original sin.<sup>46</sup> Human beings are born in sin,<sup>47</sup> subject to God's judgment of death<sup>48</sup> and captive to Satan's kingdom of darkness.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>38</sup> Genesis 1:26-27; <sup>39</sup> Genesis 1:26; <sup>40</sup> Genesis 3:1; <sup>41</sup> Revelation 12:9; <sup>42</sup> Genesis 3:8; <sup>43</sup> Romans 1:21; <sup>44</sup> Romans 5:16; <sup>45</sup> Romans 5:12; <sup>46</sup> John 5:14; <sup>47</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:22; <sup>48</sup> John 8:44; <sup>49</sup> 1 John 5:19; <sup>50</sup> Romans 8:20-23; <sup>51</sup> Psalm 51:5; <sup>52</sup> Ezekiel 18:4; <sup>53</sup> Romans 2:5; <sup>54</sup> Romans 2:12; <sup>55</sup> Hebrews 9:27; <sup>56</sup> Galatians 1:3-5; <sup>57</sup> Galatians 4:8-9; <sup>58</sup> Colossians 1:13

## 5. God's Providence, Kingdom Law and Covenants

WE BELIEVE that God did not abandon His rule over the earth<sup>50</sup> which He continues to uphold by His providence.<sup>51</sup> In order to bring redemption, God established covenants<sup>52</sup> which revealed His grace to sinful people.<sup>53</sup> In the covenant with Abraham, God bound Himself to His people Israel, promising to deliver them from bondage to sin and Satan and to bless all the nations through them.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>50</sup>Psalms 24:1; Psalm 96:10; <sup>51</sup>Isaiah 40:22; Hebrews 1:3; <sup>52</sup>Romans 9:4; <sup>53</sup>Ephesians 2:12; <sup>54</sup>Genesis 17:3-8; Genesis 12:2-3; Genesis 15:4-6; Romans 4:3-5; Romans 4:16; Romans 4:20-25; Galatians 3:6-9; Galatians 3:13-14

WE BELIEVE that as King, God later redeemed His people by His mighty acts from bondage in Egypt<sup>55</sup> and established His covenant through Moses, revealing His perfect will and our obligation to fulfill it.<sup>56</sup> The law's purpose is to order our fallen race<sup>57</sup> and to make us conscious of our moral responsibility.<sup>58</sup> By the work of God's Spirit,<sup>59</sup> it convicts us of our sin<sup>60</sup> and God's righteous judgment against us<sup>61</sup> and brings us to Christ alone for salvation.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>55</sup>Exodus 15:3-18; <sup>56</sup>Exodus 19:3-6; Exodus 24:3-4; Exodus 24:7; Romans 8:3-4; Romans 8:12-14; <sup>57</sup>Deuteronomy 5:1-3; Deuteronomy 30:15-18; Galatians 3:23-25; <sup>58</sup>Psalms 25:8-10; Romans 7:7; <sup>59</sup>John 15:26; John 16:8-11; 2 Corinthians 3:14-17; <sup>60</sup>Romans 7:13; Galatians 3:19; Galatians 3:21-22; <sup>61</sup>Romans 2:1-11; <sup>62</sup>Galatians 3:24; Philippians 3:8-9

WE BELIEVE that when Israel rejected God's rule over her as King,<sup>63</sup> God established the monarchy in Israel<sup>64</sup> and made an unconditional covenant with David,<sup>65</sup> promising that his heir would restore God's kingdom reign over His people as Messiah forever.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>63</sup>1 Samuel 8:6-8; <sup>64</sup>1 Samuel 8:21-22; 1 Samuel 9:15-16; 1 Samuel 10:1; 1 Samuel 10:24; <sup>65</sup>2 Samuel 7:11b-16; Psalm 89:34-37; <sup>66</sup>Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 11:1-5; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Ezekiel 34:23

## 6. Christ the Mediator and Eternal King

WE BELIEVE that in the fullness of time,<sup>67</sup> God honored His covenants with Israel and His prophetic promises of salvation<sup>68</sup> by sending His Son,<sup>69</sup> Jesus, into the world.<sup>70</sup> Conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary,<sup>71</sup> as fully God and fully man in one person,<sup>72</sup> He is humanity as God intended us to be.<sup>73</sup> Jesus was anointed as God's Messiah and empowered by the Holy Spirit,<sup>74</sup> inaugurating God's kingdom reign on earth,<sup>75</sup> overpowering the reign of Satan by resisting temptation,<sup>76</sup> preaching the good news of salvation,<sup>77</sup> healing the sick,<sup>78</sup> casting out demons<sup>79</sup> and raising the dead.<sup>80</sup> Gathering His disciples,<sup>81</sup> He reconstituted God's people<sup>82</sup> as His Church<sup>83</sup> to be the instrument of His kingdom.<sup>84</sup> After dying for the sins of the world,<sup>85</sup> Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day,<sup>86</sup> fulfilling the covenant of blessing given to Abraham.<sup>87</sup> In His sinless, perfect life<sup>88</sup> Jesus met the demands of the law<sup>89</sup> and in His atoning death on the cross<sup>90</sup> He took God's judgment for sin<sup>91</sup> which we deserve as law-breakers.<sup>92</sup> By His death on the cross He also disarmed the demonic powers.<sup>93</sup> The covenant with David was fulfilled in Jesus' birth from David's house,<sup>94</sup> His Messianic ministry,<sup>95</sup> His glorious resurrection from the dead,<sup>96</sup> His ascent into heaven and His present rule at the right hand of the Father.<sup>97</sup> As God's Son and David's heir,<sup>98</sup> He is the eternal Messiah-King,<sup>99</sup> advancing God's reign throughout every generation and throughout the whole earth today.<sup>100</sup>

<sup>67</sup>Mark 1:15; Galatians 4:4; <sup>68</sup>Romans 1:2-4; <sup>69</sup>John 1:14; <sup>70</sup>John 1:17-18; <sup>71</sup>Luke 1:30-35; <sup>72</sup>John 1:14; Philippians 2:5-7; <sup>73</sup>Romans 5:19; 1 Corinthians 15:22; 1 Peter 2:22, 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 8:29; <sup>74</sup>Luke 3:21-22; Luke 4:16-21; <sup>75</sup>Mark 1:14-15; Luke 11:20; Luke 17:20-21; <sup>76</sup>Luke 4:1-13; <sup>77</sup>Luke 4:43; <sup>78</sup>Luke 4:40; <sup>79</sup>Luke 4:41; <sup>80</sup>Luke 7:14-17; <sup>81</sup>Mark 1:16-17; <sup>82</sup>Mark 3:13-15; <sup>83</sup>Matthew 16:18; <sup>84</sup>Luke 9:1-2; Luke 10:1-17; <sup>85</sup>John 1:29; John 6:51; John 4:9-10; <sup>86</sup>Mark 8:31; 1 Corinthians 15:3-5; <sup>87</sup>Galatians 3:13-14; <sup>88</sup>Acts 3:14-15; Hebrews 4:15; <sup>89</sup>Romans 5:18-19; <sup>90</sup>1 Peter 2:24; <sup>91</sup>Galatians 3:13; 2 Corinthians 5:21; <sup>92</sup>Romans 1:18; Romans 1:32; Romans 2:12; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10; <sup>93</sup>Colossians 2:13-15; <sup>94</sup>Matthew 1:1; <sup>95</sup>Luke 1:68-72; Luke 2:10-11; Matthew 9:27; <sup>96</sup>Acts 2:24-28; <sup>97</sup>Acts 2:29-36; <sup>98</sup>Romans 1:1-4; <sup>99</sup>Hebrews 1:1-3; <sup>100</sup>1 Corinthians 15:24-26; Ephesians 1:19-23; Revelation 5:5

## 7. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Church at Pentecost in power,<sup>101</sup> baptizing believers into the Body of Christ<sup>102</sup> and releasing the gifts of the Spirit to them.<sup>103</sup> The Spirit brings the permanent indwelling presence of God to us<sup>104</sup> for spiritual worship,<sup>105</sup> personal sanctification,<sup>106</sup> building up the Church,<sup>107</sup> gifting us for ministry,<sup>108</sup> and driving back the kingdom of Satan by the evangelization of the world<sup>109</sup> through proclaiming the word of Jesus<sup>110</sup> and doing the works of Jesus.<sup>111</sup>

<sup>101</sup>Acts 1:8; Acts 2:1-4; <sup>102</sup>1 Corinthians 12:13; <sup>103</sup>1 Corinthians 12:4-7; <sup>104</sup>John 14:16-17; <sup>105</sup>Romans 12:1; Ephesians 5:18-20; <sup>106</sup>Romans 8:3-4; <sup>107</sup>1 Corinthians 14:12; 1 Corinthians 14:26; <sup>108</sup>Romans 12:4-6; <sup>109</sup>Luke 11:20; 1 John 3:8b; <sup>110</sup>Ephesians 6:10-20; <sup>111</sup>John 14:12-13; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 4:20

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ<sup>112</sup> and that He is our abiding Helper,<sup>113</sup> Teacher,<sup>114</sup> and Guide.<sup>115</sup> We believe in the filling or the empowering of the Holy Spirit,<sup>116</sup> often a conscious experience,<sup>117</sup> for ministry today.<sup>118</sup> We believe in the present ministry of the Spirit<sup>119</sup> and in the exercise of all of the biblical gifts of the Spirit.<sup>120</sup> We practice the laying on of hands for the empowering of the Spirit,<sup>121</sup> for healing,<sup>122</sup> and for recognition and empowering of those whom God has ordained to lead and serve the Church.<sup>123</sup>

<sup>112</sup>Romans 8:9-10; <sup>113</sup>John 16:7; <sup>114</sup>John 14:26; <sup>115</sup>John 16:13-15; Romans 8:14; <sup>116</sup>Luke 24:49; Acts 4:31; <sup>117</sup>Acts 8:18-19; Acts 19:1-2; <sup>118</sup>1 Corinthians 2:4-5; 2 Corinthians 4:7; 2 Corinthians 6:4-7; <sup>119</sup>Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:15-17; <sup>120</sup>1 Corinthians 12:7-11; 1 Corinthians 14:1; 1 Corinthians 14:5; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21; <sup>121</sup>Acts 8:14-17; Acts 19:6; <sup>122</sup>Mark 1:41; Luke 6:18b-19; Mark 16:18; <sup>123</sup>Acts 13:1-3; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6

## 8. The Sufficiency of Scripture

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit inspired the human authors of Holy Scripture<sup>124</sup> so that the Bible is without error<sup>125</sup> in the original manuscripts. We receive the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments<sup>126</sup> as our final, absolute authority, the only infallible rule of faith<sup>127</sup> and practice.<sup>128</sup>

<sup>124</sup>2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; John 14:26; <sup>125</sup>Psalms 19:7-9; Psalm 119:30; Psalm 119:43; Psalm 119:89; Matthew 5:17-18; John 3:34; John 10:35; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; Revelation 22:6; <sup>126</sup>Luke 24:44; 2 Peter 3:15-16; Revelation 22:18-19; <sup>127</sup>Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35; <sup>128</sup>Matthew 7:21; Matthew 7:24; Luke 1:38; James 1:22-25

## 9. The Power of the Gospel Over the Kingdom of Darkness

WE BELIEVE that the whole world is under the domination of Satan<sup>129</sup> and that all people are sinners by nature<sup>130</sup> and choice.<sup>131</sup> All people therefore are under God's just judgment.<sup>132</sup> Through the preaching of the Good News of Jesus and the Kingdom of God<sup>133</sup> and the work of the Holy Spirit,<sup>134</sup> God regenerates,<sup>135</sup> justifies,<sup>136</sup> adopts<sup>137</sup> and sanctifies<sup>138</sup> through

Jesus by the Spirit<sup>139</sup> all who repent of their sins<sup>140</sup> and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord<sup>141</sup> and Saviour.<sup>142</sup> By this they are released from Satan's domain and enter into God's kingdom reign.<sup>143</sup>

<sup>129</sup>Luke 4:5-7; <sup>1</sup> John 5:19; <sup>130</sup>1 Corinthians 15:22; Ephesians 2:1-3; <sup>131</sup>Romans 1:21-23; Romans 1:32; <sup>132</sup>Romans 1:18; Romans 2:5; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Ephesians 5:6; <sup>133</sup>Mark 1:14-15; Acts 8:12; Acts 28:31; Ephesians 5:5; <sup>134</sup>John 16:7-11; <sup>135</sup>John 3:5-8; 1 Peter 1:23; <sup>136</sup>Romans 5:1-2; Romans 5:9; <sup>137</sup>Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6; <sup>138</sup>Ephesians 5:25; Hebrews 13:12; <sup>139</sup>1 Peter 1:1-2; <sup>140</sup>Acts 2:38; <sup>141</sup>Romans 10:9; <sup>142</sup>John 4:13-15; <sup>143</sup>Colossians 1:13-14; Philippians 3:20

## 10. The Church: Instrument of the Kingdom

WE BELIEVE in the one,<sup>144</sup> holy,<sup>145</sup> universal Church.<sup>146</sup> All who repent of their sins and confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit<sup>147</sup> and form the living Body of Christ,<sup>148</sup> of which He is the head<sup>149</sup> and of which we are all members.<sup>150</sup>

<sup>144</sup>John 17:20-21; Ephesians 4:3-6; <sup>145</sup>1 Corinthians 3:16-17; <sup>146</sup>Matthew 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Ephesians 2:18-19; 1 Peter 2:9-10; <sup>147</sup>Titus 3:4-7; <sup>148</sup>Romans 12:4-5; <sup>149</sup>Ephesians 1:22; Ephesians 5:23; <sup>150</sup>1 Corinthians 12:27

## 11. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ committed two ordinances to the Church: water baptism<sup>151</sup> and the Lord's Supper.<sup>152</sup> Both are available to all believers.

<sup>151</sup>Matthew 28:19-20; <sup>152</sup>1 Corinthians 10:14-17; 11:23-26

## 12. The Kingdom of God and the Final Judgment

WE BELIEVE that God's kingdom has come in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>153</sup> that it continues to come in the ministry of the Spirit through the Church,<sup>154</sup> and that it will be consummated in the glorious, visible and triumphant appearing of Christ<sup>155</sup> – His return to the earth as King.<sup>156</sup> After Christ returns to reign,<sup>157</sup> He will bring about the final defeat of Satan and all of his minions and works,<sup>158</sup> the resurrection of the dead,<sup>159</sup> the final judgment<sup>160</sup> and the eternal blessing of the righteous and eternal conscious punishment of the wicked.<sup>161</sup> Finally, God will be all in all<sup>162</sup> and His kingdom, His rule and reign,<sup>163</sup> will be fulfilled in the new heavens and the new earth,<sup>164</sup> recreated by His mighty power, in which righteousness dwells<sup>165</sup> and in which He will forever be worshipped.<sup>166</sup>

<sup>153</sup>Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 4:23; Matthew 12:28; <sup>154</sup>Matthew 6:10; Matthew 10:7-8; Matthew 24:14; Mark 13:11; John 15:26-27; Romans 14:17-18; <sup>155</sup>Mark 13:26; Acts 1:9-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:8; <sup>156</sup>Revelation 19:11-16; <sup>157</sup>Matthew 25:31-32; 1 Corinthians 15:23-25; <sup>158</sup>Revelation 20:10; <sup>159</sup>1 Corinthians 15:51-52; <sup>160</sup>John 5:28-30; Revelation 20:11-15; <sup>161</sup>Matthew 25:31-46; <sup>162</sup>1 Corinthians 15:24-28; <sup>163</sup>1 Timothy 6:13-16; <sup>164</sup>2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:5; <sup>165</sup>Revelation 21:27; <sup>166</sup>1 Timothy 1:17; Revelation 7:9-12



## Core Values Statement

These values describe who we are as a unique expression of the body of Christ. They are founded on our beliefs which are laid out in our **Statement of Faith**.

### God initiates.

- Kingdom: We believe that God is breaking into human experience in mighty ways to restore His divine order.
- Word: We study the Bible and seek to apply it to our lives. As we yield to God, He transforms us through His word.
- Good News: We embrace God's persistent and powerful action among people to deliver us from bondage to sin and to restore our relationship with God.

### By grace we respond.

- Worship: We expect to meet intimately with God as we surrender to Him through worship in its many forms.
- Spiritual Gifts: We seek to exercise all of the gifts of the Spirit in a natural manner.
- Works: We align ourselves with what we see the Father doing, and join Him in those things in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### God heals us, matures us, and sends us out in His name.

- Relationships: We choose to relate to others in a loving, Christ-like manner and to grow in mutual transparency and accountability.
- Small Groups: We practice small groups as basic building blocks of our community, and a place where the Holy Spirit can grow us toward maturity.
- Outreach: We reach out to our neighbors, the larger community and the world to give away what God has given us.

## Current MPVCC Leadership and Ministries

### MPVCC Ministries:

1. Adult Education
2. Arts Collective
3. Biblical Counseling
4. Children's Ministry
5. Communion
6. Connections
7. Facilities
8. Family
9. Green
10. Guest Center
11. Hospitality
12. Intercessory Prayer
13. Men's Ministry
14. Multimedia
15. Office Volunteers
16. Prayer Chain
17. Recovery Rocks
18. Small Groups
19. Sunday Treats
20. Ushers
21. Women's Ministry
22. Worship/Altar Prayer
23. Youth

### MPVCC Leadership Teams

1. Pastoral Team – This team is responsible for pastoral oversight at MPVCC
2. Board of Directors
3. Current Paid Staff
  - Full-time: Administrative Assistant Lois Shaffer
  - Part-time: Children's Ministry Director Monica Henry and Bookkeeper Lisa Jaquez
4. Leadership Team – This team is made up of MPVCC's ministry leaders including small group leaders.

## MPVCC Facilities and Recent Redesign

Since 2001, our church has met in its own building located two blocks from downtown San Carlos at 1566 Arroyo Avenue. There is ample parking in the middle school parking lot across the street from the building. The rest of the immediate neighborhood is residential.

Our building is approximately 8,000 square feet, has a sanctuary that can hold 200+ people, a multi-purpose room with kitchen area and four classrooms. Staff offices are on site; they are small but allow space for a pastor's office, a secretary and bookkeeper's area, and a small associate/youth pastor's office.

With God's plentiful provision, MPVCC purchased our building in 2005. The leadership team spent months researching various building options and concluded that the current location and building served the church's purposes better than other existing options. We are currently aggressively paying off the building loan. At the current payment rate, the church is positioned to own the building outright as of 2016.

The church recently completed a one year, \$75,000 redesign to upgrade the interior of the building. Given that the facilities play a key role in the church, from creating positive first impressions for newcomers to allowing more flexible ministry usage of the space, the Board approved using money from savings to complete this large endeavor. With the help of more than a dozen members of the MPVCC community, the redesign significantly improved the facilities. The redesign included, but was not limited to, the following changes: new carpeting throughout, new tile flooring through the hallways and foyers, painting the entire interior (excluding the sanctuary), moving the kitchen area, adding additional storage space, improving the light fixtures throughout classrooms and the Multi-Purpose room, and upgrading the kitchen appliances.

On the heels of the Redesign, the Board has approved to start a Facilities Ministry Team. This team will include at least one Board member, several volunteers who know the building well and have some facilities experience, and a paid part time church employee. The team will strive to create a strategy for building improvements, build relationships between the communities of MPVCC and its' two subletting church congregations, and generally improve the overall usage of the building.

## San Carlos/San Mateo Profile

MPVCC is located in the city of San Carlos and the county of San Mateo. (The demographics of MPVCC are more analogous to San Mateo County than San Carlos.)

### San Carlos

San Carlos, *The City of Good Living*, is strategically located 25 miles south of San Francisco and 25 miles north of San Jose. There is an outstanding school system, attractive residential areas, a quaint shopping district, excellent restaurants, a modern industrial and commercial area, and plenty of open space. As part of the northern end of Silicon Valley, San Carlos is also home to several technology, biotech, and medical instrumentation companies. San Carlos epitomizes an active and inviting community atmosphere. For more information, click [here](#).

[http://www.cityofsancarlos.org/visitors/city\\_profile/default.asp](http://www.cityofsancarlos.org/visitors/city_profile/default.asp)

### San Mateo County

San Mateo County stretches across most of the San Francisco Peninsula from the Pacific Ocean to San Francisco Bay and from just south of San Francisco down to East Palo Alto and West Menlo Park. San Mateo County, with 20 cities, is home to numerous colleges, universities, and research parks - with an estimated 745,858 residents. San Mateo County is among the most ethnically diverse in California, and 33.9% of the population was born in a foreign country. In 2007 there were 251,000 households in San Mateo County. The average household size was 2.8 people. As of 2007, the estimated median age of San Mateo County residents was 40.1 years (compared with 34.7 years in California and 36.7 years for the nation). 22% of the population was under 18 years and 13% was 65 years and older. For more information, click [here](#).

<http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/portal/site/SMC>