



# New Beginnings Class

We believe every congregation should have a sense of purpose and direction. We have attempted to capture our sense of purpose in four areas: **vision, mission, distinctives, and dreams**. Our goal as a congregation is to bring honor and glory to God through our lives as individuals and as a worshipping community.

## OUR VISION:

Our vision is for World Outreach Church to be a transforming place for people – across our community, throughout Middle Tennessee and around the earth. We believe that a relationship with God is the greatest opportunity ever extended to a person. Our experience as Christ Followers should be liberating and hope filled.

*We believe this can be accomplished by:*

- Creative outreach & community-wide involvement
- A commitment to leadership development
- A high priority on the recruitment, equipping and involvement of lay ministry
- Maintaining a caring, nurturing atmosphere
- Dependence upon the direction and anointing of the Holy Spirit



### **OUR MISSION:**

*Helping people to become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ*

### **OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

As a dynamic church proclaiming the Word of God, we propose to make disciples of Christ by:

- attracting and leading the unsaved to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- encouraging Christians to consecrate themselves to God's purpose in their lives
- providing a climate in which worship and personal spiritual growth occur
- equipping believers for effective ministry to reach the Murfreesboro area and throughout the earth

### **CORE VALUES AND GOALS:**

- creativity and innovation
- loving your neighbor
- experiencing God
- extending the Kingdom
- striving to be a redeeming place

### **The Scriptural Basis for This Statement**

- **To make disciples of Christ by attracting and leading the unsaved to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ**

*“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 will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

Matthew 28: 19 - 20

- **Encouraging Christians to consecrate themselves to God’s purpose in their lives**

*“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – which is your spiritual worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

Romans 12: 1 - 2

- **Providing a climate in which worship and personal spiritual growth occur**

*“It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”*

Ephesians 4: 11 - 13

- **Equipping Believers for effective ministry to reach the Murfreesboro area and throughout the earth**

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

Acts 1: 8

*“Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.”*

Matthew 9: 35 – 38



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## HISTORY OF WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH

World Outreach Church began as a home Bible study in the 1970s, led by Dr. George and Betty Jackson. A non-profit organization, Disciples, Inc. was formed to help the group sponsor community seminars and make literature available.

On Easter Sunday, 1980, 29 people met in the banquet room of a local hotel to hold services, establishing World Outreach Church. In June of 1981, 28 acres were purchased on Salem Road with plans to construct a church building.

The church's mission statement is a good summary of the congregation's history --- *"Helping people become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ."* Expanding facilities and new opportunities have not shifted the fundamental objective of the congregation.

World Outreach Church believes in the value of serving Murfreesboro and Middle Tennessee and has developed a variety of annual activities to reach out to the community. In addition, the church supports community organizations such as the Salvation Army, Special Kids, the Hope Clinic, New Frontier's Challenge Center, the Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Room at the Inn, Feed America First, and the Crisis Pregnancy Center.

World Outreach Church has experienced many changes in facilities, membership, and programs over the last 30+ years. Through all those changes however, a set of values have remained the same --a desire to experience God more fully in our lives; the belief that a relationship with Jesus Christ is transforming; a commitment to children and young people; and a desire to be a valuable participant in our community.



### OUR DISTINCTIVES:

By God's will and blessing, WOC has become a unique ministry to the people of Middle Tennessee. As we look back to 1980 when a small band of Christians met in the Wayside Inn for prayer and worship, we see a consistent history of dependence upon God for leadership and a commitment to fulfill His Great commission.

The following characteristics shape our ministry:

An **Interdenominational** congregation - WOC is in the mainstream of the historic evangelical Christian faith. The Apostle's Creed frames our statement of belief.

A striving for **excellence** in every area of ministry.

An emphasis upon **personal responsibility for spiritual decisions** without creating a legalistic atmosphere.

A commitment to **major on the major doctrines**, while **minoring on the minors**. This is reflected in the ancient motto:

"In essentials unity, in non-essentials diversity, in all things charity."

A belief that **every member is a minister**. Because the Scripture teaches that each Christian has been given spiritual gifts in order to serve the Lord and His people, we strive to help every member discover, develop, and use their gifts in ministry.

A commitment to **promote church growth**.

A **world-wide vision** for ministry and evangelism.



### **THE BASIS OF OUR FAITH:**

We believe that:

The sixty-six canonical books of the Bible, as originally written, were inspired of God, hence free from error. They constitute the only infallible guide in faith and practice.

There is one God, the Creator and Preserver of all things, infinite in being and perfection. He exists eternally in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who are of one substance and equal in power and glory.

Man, created in the image of God, through disobedience fell from his sinless state at the suggestion of Satan. This fall plunged man into a state of sin and spiritual death, and brought upon the entire race the sentence of eternal death. From this condition man can be saved only by the grace of God, through faith, on the basis of the work of Christ, and by the agency of the Holy Spirit.

The eternally pre-existent Son became incarnate without human father, by being born of the Virgin Mary. Thus in the Lord Jesus Christ, divine and human natures were united in one Person, both natures being whole, perfect and distinct. To effect salvation, He lived a sinless life and died on the cross as the sinner's substitute, shedding His blood for the remission of sins. On the third day He rose from the dead in the body which had been laid in the tomb. He ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He performs the ministry of intercession. He shall come again, personally and visibly, to complete His saving work and to consummate the eternal plan of God.

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Triune God. He applies to man the work of Christ. By justification and adoption man is given a right standing before God; by regeneration, sanctification and glorification man's nature is renewed.

The believer, having turned to God in penitent faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, is accountable to God for living a life separated from sin and characterized by the fruit of the Spirit. It is his responsibility to contribute by word and deed to the universal spread of the Gospel.

At the end of the age the bodies of the dead shall be raised. The righteous shall enter into full possession of eternal bliss in the presence of God, and the wicked shall be condemned to eternal death.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hades;  
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 Christian church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

Amen

### **A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY:**

It is our desire that each person who worships with us experience growth in their relationship with God. Christianity is not a destination, but the building of a relationship with God. There are some identifiable milestones which we believe are an integral part of this journey:

- no awareness of the Gospel - 7
- fundamentals of Gospel - 6
- implications of the Gospel - 5
- positive attitude - 4
- personal problem recognition - 3
- decision to act - 2
- repentance and faith in Christ – 1

### **NEW BIRTH**

- + 1 water baptism
- + 2 interaction with the Holy Spirit
- + 3 community – small group involvement
- + 4 developing spiritual disciplines
- + 5 stewardship
- + 6 service
- + 7 discipleship of ourselves & others



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### Next Generation

Our mission is to creatively involve adults, youth, and children in a process that will lead to a relationship with Jesus Christ. We value the opportunity to participate in the spiritual, emotional, and physical development of the kids we serve. We are committed to excellence in modeling for children how to live as Christ followers.

Next Generation offers activities and ministries from “cradle to college”.

- **Birth – 3 Years Old:**

We believe that even at a very young age children have the potential to begin understanding basic concepts about God. Through Biblical based stories, lessons are planned so that children can learn: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

- **4 Years Old – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

The Children in 4 years - 1st grade are broken down into two groups: 4 – 5’s and Kindergarten – 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Both participate each weekend in large and small group settings. Each group experiences music, movement and dynamic video to learn how to worship God and learn His Word in a fun and inviting setting.

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Children participate in grade level groups with instruction and activities conducted in large and small group settings. An emphasis is placed on children building relationships with youth and adults that will facilitate spiritual growth. Live worship, fast paced video, group games and dynamic presentations characterize the weekly experiences. Additional special events are planned for kids throughout the year, such as Character Quest, Summer Camps, Harvest Hoedown, Christmas activities, etc.

- **Infinity Student Ministry - (Teenagers 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

Two Age Groups: One Purpose

Every week at Infinity services, we seek God with an expectation...a desire to know Him more. Every Infinity service features exciting worship led by our own WOC worship teams, relevant biblical teaching, and interactive small groups designed to bring personal application of God's word to the lives of students. Each month there are also special activities and events with one goal in mind for both groups: to help people become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

JV Infinity is Wednesdays at 7:00pm in Genesis Sanctuary. Students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades join Pastor Tim Posch for a night of fun and fellowship. Not only do students attend a weekly worship service, but they also may participate in JV Roundtables. During roundtables in a small group-like atmosphere, students are able to connect with their peers and a specific leader to further their walk with Christ.

HS Infinity takes place on Thursdays at 7:00pm in Genesis Sanctuary. Pastor Tim Posch leads the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders each week in worship and spiritual growth. Students may arrive at 6:45pm on Thursdays to join other teens from their school during Campus Group Time. Campus Groups will help your student to connect with friends from their school and feel at home in our youth group.

- **The Gathering**

The Gathering is the college and career ministry of World Outreach Church. We encourage young adults, 18-25, to be a part of a community of faith that studies and applies the Word of God to their lives, experiences the power of God in the midst of their circumstances, and reaches beyond to love and encourage others. The Gathering meets weekly on Mondays at 6:45 pm in New Harvest Sanctuary for fellowship, small group discipleship and prayer.

## Small Groups

We believe Christianity is best understood and applied in the context of a small group. Every person is encouraged to participate in a small group. These groups meet weekly for a time of fellowship, Bible study and prayer. The emphasis is upon the development of relationships with God and one another. In small groups participants can learn together how Christianity impacts their lives.

Campus Growth Groups focus on the spiritual and relational growth of each person. They gather for fellowship and ministry. Mutual Care is the key to the ministry given and received in these small groups. You will find them in the sanctuaries and classrooms throughout the week at various times but especially Wednesday and Thursday nights on the church campus. There are also small groups dedicated to life situations – Divorce Care, Grief Share, 12-Step, Financial Peace, and others. As a part of the New Year's Series in January/February and the Fall Series in September/October, 4-week small groups are formed that follow along the series weekly sermons. These groups predominantly meet in homes throughout the county and some on campus.



WOC includes in its set of beliefs that every Believer is a minister. We strive to help every person to discover, develop, and use their talents in ministry. The church's ministries provide opportunities for hundreds of volunteers, in a wide variety of responsibilities. In addition to serving others, ministry involvement is an opportunity to meet and develop meaningful relationships with other Christians at World Outreach Church. Below are some of these ministries.

### **Next Generation: Birth - College**

- **Children Birth-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Children's Ministries cares for and teaches children birth – 6<sup>th</sup> grades at all worship services. Typically there is a formal recruitment period in the spring for teachers and workers, but there are always opportunities to be involved. Contact Bethany Renfrow at [CM@wochurch.org](mailto:CM@wochurch.org) for more information.

- **Infinity Student Ministries**

Helping young people in junior and senior high school navigate the challenges they face and make God choices is critical. Infinity (grades 7-12) is a collection of people who are on a quest to get connected with God and find purpose in life. If you are interested in working with this age group, contact Tim Posch at [SM@wochurch.org](mailto:SM@wochurch.org).

- **The Gathering**

This group includes young people 18 to 25 years old. We believe this is a unique time in with unique opportunities and unique questions to address. It's a place of fellowship, a place of discipleship, a place of seeking answers to life from a Godly perspective. Contact Caleb West at [CollegeandCareer@wochurch.org](mailto:CollegeandCareer@wochurch.org) for more information.

### **World Outreach Worship**

If you are interested in being part of World Outreach Worship and have experience as a vocalist or musician, consider the WOC Choir or the weekend worship team. Please watch the weekly church bulletins or website for audition dates and times. You must be out of high school to audition, and if auditioning for the band, you must be able to read charts.

### **Multimedia**

Many components of weekend worship services are technology driven – cameras, pro-presenter, video, sound and much more.

### **Welcome/Usher/Greeter Team**

Each service has a team of people responsible to greet at all building and sanctuary entrance doors, creating a welcoming environment for both visitors and members. Ushers serve in each sanctuary for each service, seating people, distributing bulletins, collecting the offertory and assisting visitors with questions/needs.

### **Coffee Team**

Coffee is available in New Harvest Sanctuary at weekend services and there is a team of people for each service time who prepare the coffee and monitor its set up and service.

### **Hospitality Team**

WOC frequently hosts guests for speaking engagements, and musical and dramatic performances. There is a team who help with food preparation and service to those guests while they are on campus.

### **Operations Team**

- **Parking**
- **Cleaning**
- **Special Events**

The operations team serves in different capacities to maintain an expeditious traffic flow every weekend, help keep the church clean between services and set up for special events throughout the year.

### **Stage Management Team**

The stage team assists in preparing Three Crosses Sanctuary's stage for TV production during the weekend services.

### **Annual Special Events**

Throughout the year WOC holds special events that require the help of hundreds of volunteers to execute. Some of these include Easter, Harvest Hoedown, and Christmas Gift Wrap. The registration process to volunteer for these events is announced and made available at weekend worship services several weeks prior to the event. These are great opportunities to both serve the church and meet many new people.

For more information on how to get involved on a service team contact Amanda Morgan at [serve@wochurch.org](mailto:serve@wochurch.org).



WOC holds a wide variety of special events for ministry, spiritual growth and fellowship throughout the year. Below is a sampling of those activities.

### January-February

- New Year Sermon Series
- Valentine's Day Event
- MTSU Basketball Game
- Baby Dedication

### March - May

- Easter Services  
(Attendance of 20,000; highlights include guest performances by artists as Steven Curtis Chapman, Jars of Clay, Charlie Daniels, Michael W. Smith and Josh Turner.)
- National Day of Prayer

### June-July

- Character Quest – Weeklong program emphasizing leadership and character development for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Outdoor baptism services
- Golf Tournament

### August - October

- Infinity Back to School – special programming for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Fall Sermon Series
- Harvest Hoedown – a special evening for both children and adults, providing a safe alternative to traditional Halloween activities, attracting 25,000+ individuals.
- MTSU Football Game

### November - December

- Christmas Gift Wrap at local mall in Murfreesboro. 1,500 WOC volunteers wrap in excess of 15,000 packages, free of charge.
- Special Christmas programming for every age group
- Christmas Season Toy & Food Drives
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Communion Service



