

CORE VALUES OF THE HOLYROOD MENNONITE CHURCH

We value Christ's transforming relationship with us. Christ is our salvation, hope, motivation and strength. Because of Christ's life in us we value:

Committed, caring community: (I Corinthians 12 & 13; John 13:34 - 35)

Jesus Christ brings us together into a community of faith known as the church. We are one body in Christ and so we feel the joy and pain of others in our community of faith. Commitment to one another is shown in loving one another as God loves, in sharing material and spiritual resources, in exercising mutual care and discipline, and in showing hospitality to all. The church welcomes all people who join themselves to Christ to become part of the family of God. (Pg. 40 - Confession of Faith)

Unity of the Spirit: (Philippians 2:1-11; John 17:20-24; Ephesians 4:1-16; Genesis 1)

In the act of creation God created a multitude of different forms of life that all worked together in harmony. Though fallen from that perfect state, God calls us back to that harmony as diverse people who are joined together in one walk by the transforming love of God through Christ. God transforms what would be hatred and division into a body working together to glorify God. Here we commit to handling our disagreements in truth and love by listening to and respecting one another as guided by God's word. (Matthew 18:15-35)

God's Word: (Colossians 3:16, 17; John 5:31-47; 2 Timothy 3:14-17)

The Bible is essential to our faith because it is the Word of God written and thus is a standard and guide for living out our faith. We seek to understand and interpret Scripture in harmony with Jesus Christ as we are led by the Holy Spirit in the church. Here we commit to individual and corporate study and discernment of Scripture in harmony with Jesus Christ as we are led by the Holy Spirit in the church.

Cultivating faith: (Philippians 3; Matthew 28:16-20; Colossians 1 and 2)

We value the process of continual faith development, therefore we strive to create an environment which invites and draws people into faith in God, as well as nurtures and challenges those with Christian faith to push deeper in their relationship with God "so that we may present everyone mature in Christ." (Colossians 1:28)

A lifestyle of radical discipleship: (Matthew 5:1 - 7:29; 16:24-26; 1 Peter 1:13-15; Romans 12)

Jesus' teachings are hard because they call us to see the world from God's perspective and act accordingly, following the inner prompting of God and the outer calling of the church in various aspects of life, even when it feels uncomfortable. This lifestyle often brings us into conflict with the patterns of the world, but this does not deter us because our life is in God, not in the world.

The pursuit of holistic peace: (Colossians 3:15; Romans 12:14-21; Luke 4:18-21)

A peace that flows from the Prince of Peace and extends to all levels of life and relationships (self, family, community, nations, environment, etc.) is important to God and therefore to us. We strive to live justly and non-violently, and act as agents of reconciliation in order that others may experience spiritual and physical peace.

Leaving and following (available and willing): (Matthew 10:37-39; Luke 18:18-30; Romans 6:11-14; Hebrews 12:1-3)

We commit ourselves to leave all that would keep us from Christ, to make space in our lives for the call of God, and obediently act when that leading comes.