

St. Joseph Church

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Community is identified by some common purpose and agreed upon values. What is the common purpose of the church? What is our reason for being a community?

Revelation tells us that God made us to become one with Him, our Creator, in joy forever. We use other terms to describe that reality – going to heaven, being saved, entering the kingdom of God. Before that union, however, we are tested for the values of loyalty and love. Part of the test involves an enemy enticing us to withdraw from God’s plan and instead seek pleasure here and now. God speaks to us that we might love and serve Him above all things and enter the fullness of His plan.

From a human point of view, one finds a vast variety of “reasons for living” ranging from the noblest such as an unselfish devotion for the well-being of mankind to the despairing will to survive one more day. Individuals committed to relief of human misery have banded together to achieve their purpose. Examples are Doctors Without Borders, Mercy Corps, religious orders, etc. As communities, they find fundraising and aid can be increased.

Jesus taught us the values and standards expected of the children of God. We must value the dignity of every human person. We strive as church to live honestly in word and deed; to respect each person’s family and property; to love God above all and our neighbor as ourselves; to offer worship to God alone and not let any creature dominate our decisions. Jesus lived humbly, dedicating Himself to teaching and serving all and making like-minded disciples.

He bound Himself so closely to us that our Church is one as the Body of Christ -Jesus as Head and we as members.