

Blackhawk Church Ends Statement 4/28/2014

We, the Blackhawk Church community, proclaim the Gospel, which is the good news of what God has done through Christ Jesus by his life, death, burial, and resurrection. Through Christ the power of God's kingdom has entered history to renew the whole world. By God's grace we have been saved through faith, which is not something we have earned but is a free gift from God. The Gospel affects our lives. When we believe and rely on Jesus' work for our restored relationship with God, He works in us through the power of His Holy Spirit to bring us new life now, making us more like Christ; He uses us to extend His Kingdom here on earth, and He will eventually resurrect us to life in the new heaven and earth.

1.0 Lives are transformed by the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel.

1.1 Lives are transformed within the Blackhawk community.

1.1.1 Individuals regularly come to a saving knowledge of Christ through faith alone and are baptized.

1.1.2 Individuals regularly engage with the Word, learning to apply the Bible to daily situations, meeting regularly with other believers for scriptural discussion and prayer.

1.1.3 Individual and corporate prayer is practiced regularly in the lives of Christ followers.

1.1.4 Individuals' relationships, thinking and motivations are characterized by love and grace, demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit in transformed lives.

1.1.5 Individuals discover and exercise their spiritual gifts in cheerful service where needed, in balance with other commitments.

1.1.6 People have in their own lives overcome the influence of the false gods of our day (e.g., money, sex, power).

1.1.7 People are generous and joyful givers of their financial resources.

1.1.8 Individuals in the next generation commit to be followers of Christ through credible presentations of the Gospel, and develop spiritual habits that reinforce their profession.

1.1.9 People are united by the Gospel and accept each other with humility, even while there may be disagreement regarding nonessential issues.

1.1.10 People worship reverently, in gatherings attractive to outsiders. The Lord's Supper is regularly celebrated.

1.1.11 People understand the clear truth of the bible conveyed in normal language by humble, authentic speakers grounded in sound biblical scholarship.

1.1.12 Blackhawk reflects community demographics including age, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status, and fosters authentic relationships among diverse groups.

1.1.13 People in the community who do not know Jesus feel welcome at Blackhawk, where their questions are heard and addressed with respect.

1.1.14 Blackhawkers pray for and work for the flourishing of their local communities.

1.2 Lives are transformed within our local communities.

1.2.1 Our local communities feel affirmed when the culture's beliefs and practices align with the gospel, and our communities feel challenged when the culture is not in alignment with the gospel. In every situation our local communities experience respect, humility and grace from Blackhawkers.

1.2.2 The Gospel is heard and understood in our local communities as it is articulated by Blackhawkers using everyday language and cultural ideas, avoiding Christian jargon, without watering down biblical truth.

1.2.3 The Gospel is appreciated in our local communities as Blackhawkers live lives consistent with their gospel profession, integrating faith and work, committing resources to serve the good of their local communities and especially serving the poor, practicing hospitality, and working with local charities to meet needs.

1.2.4 The university is thoughtfully engaged with the gospel. Students with their questions, enthusiasm, and fresh perspectives feel welcomed at Blackhawk. Intellectual and cultural barriers to faith are persuasively addressed. Students and faculty are provided with opportunities to explore the faith, worship, and serve.

1.3 Lives are transformed throughout the world.

1.3.1 Blackhawkers are sent worldwide in partnership with organizations around the world that have an established presence in their respective countries, and that are aligned in mission and vision with Blackhawk.

1.3.2 Organizations in partnership with Blackhawk benefit from and value that partnership. .

1.3.3 The most vulnerable in the world, the poor, those facing injustice, and those without the Gospel benefit from the partnership and participation of Blackhawk with those organizations.

1.3.4 Blackhawkers learn complementary perspectives and an expanded appreciation for the cultural breadth and transformational vigor of the gospel through regular engagement with international students and faculty in Madison, as well as through participation in mission worldwide with global partners.