

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church

Mission and Service Charter

(Updated 3-22-2021)

Purpose

Our purpose is to encourage, enable, and assist our congregation to be and to make disciples of Jesus Christ through acts of giving, service, and advocacy for the care and well-being of our neighbors and the good of the world.

Vision

Our vision for our congregation is to be active in service and advocacy as witness to the love of God through Jesus Christ in the world.

Responsibilities

1. Encourage, enable, and assist our congregation through acts of service to show Christ's love for the world.
2. Encourage giving through special offerings that enable mission through our church and through our denomination.
3. Advocate for peacemaking and social justice through education and action in accordance with our faith to spread God's shalom in the world.
4. Support our church's vision of "reaching out in love" through prayerful intercession and advocacy.
5. Carry out our fiduciary responsibilities to the congregation by being thoughtful, prayerful, and judicious stewards of the mission budget.

Biblical Mandate

God's word is clear in its assertion that mission and service are at the heart of what it means to live out our Christian faith. It is also clear that we are called to be God's presence in the world. This call demands that our lives be consistent with our faith and be evident in how we relate to one another (Acts 2:42-47), how we relate to our siblings who are in need (Matthew 25:31-40), and how we are a witness to God's love in the world (Luke 4:16-20)

Acts 2:42-47 *They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.*

Matthew 25:31-40 *'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he*

will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Luke 4:16-20 *When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor". And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.*