**THRiVE Church**

**Mission Statement**: “We exist to see people experience God’s love through Christ.”

**Motto**: Love God, Love People and Pass it On

**Vision**: The vision of THRIVE Church is to be a multi-cultural and multi-generational church that helps the people of Chesterfield County and the Richmond Metro area experience the love of God by being missional in focus, relevant in ministry and authentic.

**T**- **Training** (Development of People) (Discipleship)

**H**- **Heart for our Community** (Outreach)

**R**-**Relevant in Ministry** (Relevant)

**I**-**Innovative** (Creative Methods)

**V**-**Value People** (Guests Matter)

**E**- **Empowered by God’s Spirit** (Spirit-Empowered)

**R-** **Reproducing Leaders and Churches** (multiplication)

**S-** **Seek the Lost (**Reaching People Far From God)

**THRIVE Church’s Core Values Are:**

**T**- **Training** *(Development of People) (Discipleship)*

*Matthew 28:19-20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”*

\*Our call as a church is to “make disciples” and “develop leaders.” This will happen at Thrive as we help people, at every level, grow in Christ through Sunday Worship Services, Discipleship Groups and Personal Mentoring. This aspect of our mission will be devoted to learning what it means to be loved by God and how to love God.

\*A disciple at Thrive can be described as someone who has accepted Jesus as their Savior and has committed to love God and others through serving the Body of Christ with their God-given gifts. A disciple holds nothing back, and can be distinguished by their love. They serve, are generous and encourage others to grow in the grace of God.

**H**- **Heart for our Community (Outreach)**

***Matthew 9:36****- But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with* ***compassion*** *for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.*

\*Our call as a church is to also be intentional in connecting with our community. Our church will be committed to serving our community in various ways. We are called to love people. We should have the same compassion for our community that Jesus had for his.

\*Community Outreach at Thrive Church can best be described as creative ways to host events on campus and partner with schools or civic organizations in helping our community. These events or partnerships will demonstrate the love of the Lord Jesus Christ to our community. Outreach will be in various forms and methods.

**R**-**Relevant in Ministry (Contemporary)**

***1st Corinthians 9:22*** *I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.*

\*Our call as a church is to continue to share the NEVER CHANGING GOSPEL in the context of an EVER CHANGING world. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever, but our approach to sharing this message has to adapt to the language of our culture. This means that we need to have a relevant and fresh approach to reaching people.

\*Relevant Ministry at Thrive Church can be described as ministry that is Gospel-Centered and Culture-Focused. We want to find out, “What is reaching the unchurched of this generation?”

**I**-**Innovative (Creative)**

*Ex 35:30-36:1 30 Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 31 and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts — 32 to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze,*

\*Our call as a church is to be fresh and creative. We will use media and technology to provide an atmosphere that communicates the Gospel in a creative way. We will value creativity and new ways to approach ministry. The “experiment” is one that will need to be used when we attempt to reach our community through different methods. We will need to find out which methods work the best. This will take creativity, experimentation and failure.

\*Creativity and Innovation at Thrive Church can best be described by saying that we will use the arts, drama, skits, music, video preaching and technology to reinforce the message of the cross. We will experiment to see what works best in our community as we use different methods of ministry.

**V**-**Value People (Guests Matter)**

*1st Corinthians 14:8-9 “For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle? So likewise you, unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.”*

\*Our call as a church is to make sure that those who are outside Christ and new to our church have a positive experience where they can clearly understand the Gospel. Our primary purpose as a church is to not have a “churchy experience” for believers, but make sure that those who don’t know Christ or who are babes are able to understand. We should provide a “WOW” experience for those coming to church from the moment they enter the parking lot to the moment they get in their car to leave. We will use the term “outsiders” to speak of those who are not part of our church body. They matter and are important to us.

\*The best way to describe this principle is that we must be, “Christ-Centered,” “Seeker-Aware” and “Spirit-Sensitive.” We must understand that unless those outside of Thrive hear the Gospel clearly and become connected, then we will not survive as a church. God sends EVERY guest as a gift to us.

**E**- **Empowered by God’s Spirit (Spirit-Led)**

*Ephesians 5:8, “But be filled with the [Holy] Spirit….”*

\*Our call as a church is to make sure everyone that is a part of THRIVE CHURCH seeks to live a Spirit-empowered life. We will value the importance every believer being empowered by the Spirit of God. The Christian life is not one of grit and works, but one where each believer yields themselves to the Holy Spirit for empowerment and service. We don’t want people to simply come to church, but to be empowered as “the church” or Body of Christ for His Mission.

\*The best way to describe this principle is that we will emphasize the importance of every believer knowing God in an intimate relationship through the Holy Spirit. We will teach believers the full counsel of the Bible concerning the gifts and how to operate in their gift. We will rely upon the Bible and the guiding of the Holy Spirit for all decisions that are made as well.

**R**- **Reproduction (multiplying churches and leaders)**

*Acts 1:8*

We desire to see leaders developed and are committed to reproducing Thrive Church through church planting and multi-site launches.

**S**- **Seek the Lost (Unchurched)**

*Luke 19:10*

"We exist to see people far from God filled with life in Christ. Everything we do is geared to reaching the unchurched."