

# CORE VALUES

## WESLEYAN PRACTICE OF FAITH

We believe our Christian faith, informed by our Wesleyan heritage, is central to who we are and the fulfillment of our mission. We believe both personal piety and social holiness are equally important in faith formation. We believe in a Wesleyan understanding of grace which calls us to see God in all persons. We believe in living according to Wesley's three general rules: 1) Do No Harm, 2) Do All the Good You Can, and 3) Stay in Love with God.

## MUTUAL RELATIONSHIPS

We believe that mutual, loving relationships are the primary medium for transformation where all are teachers and all are learners. We believe relationships – messy, hard, and complicated as they may be - help us see the world through another's eyes in order to be more whole and fully human. We believe relationships remove barriers of class, ethnicity, race, gender, and sexual orientation, and allow us to discover individual strengths and uniqueness so we can be who God calls us.

## INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY

We believe everyone has sacred worth, created in the image of God. We believe everyone is worthy of love and grace. We value mutuality, diversity, and reconciliation where all persons and perspectives are valued. We practice radical hospitality where we welcome all with care and consideration. We practice intentional, Christian community which requires openness, authenticity, and vulnerability.

## CONNECTIONAL MINISTRY

We believe in the power of the church's connectional nature. We believe the local church is an essential partner in community transformation. We create partnerships, where the mutual investment of neighbors, volunteers, and churches multiplies resources and assets.

## DISCERNMENT OF PURPOSE

We believe everyone has unique gifts, passions, and talents endowed by God that can be used for a greater purpose of ministry and service in the world. We foster an intentional environment of practice and self-reflection. We encourage and empower self-discovery and the cultivation of gifts, passions, and talents as young people discern their vocation.

## EMPOWERMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

We connect the energy and ideas of young people with churches and under-resourced communities to bring about change. We believe young people are capable of solving communities' toughest issues when given the opportunity to lead and serve. We value young people's passions, innovation, and enthusiasm, and give space for their voice in evaluation and development of the organization. We empower children and youth to become servant leaders in their own communities.

## SERVANT LEADERSHIP

We practice Christ-inspired leadership which seeks to put the needs of others before self for the greater good. We believe in sharing power and investing in others so that all may fully live into their calling. We believe in laboring with love, justice, compassion, humility, and accountability. We believe in practicing rest, which promotes personal wholeness and renewal.

## HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

We believe learning engages and develops the whole self: mind, body, and spirit. We believe that every child and community has unique assets and the right to thrive. We believe that spiritual formation is an essential part of development. We develop literacy and social-emotional skills and knowledge for future success. We seek to inspire a love of learning with a positive, fun-filled, experiential, and relational environment.