

# Urban Refuge

## What we do is who we are.

When we embody beliefs and values, they become living and breathing virtues that reveal who we really are. The abundant life that Jesus gives and invites us to live fully into is received by faith, embraced in the mind, and practiced in action. We believe God has expressly called our church to pursue, emphasize, and live into these virtues.

### **Live a Gospel Life**

The Gospel is the heart of everything we do. The love and forgiveness of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ propel us by the power of the Holy Spirit to follow Him, be like Him, and do like Him. We desire to proclaim the hope found in His saving grace and share the truth that sets us all free.

### **Live a Humble Life**

Humility opens the doors to greater experiences of God's grace, which in turn enables us to extend Christlike grace to others. We treasure God's Word, the Bible, as our greatest way of understanding God and how to live a life that reflects His kingdom. We come to the Word humbly and with teachable hearts so we can learn from the Good Shepherd. We strive to live in humility and understanding toward others, trusting that each of us has something to teach and something to learn.

### **Live a Connected Life**

Life is far better lived in circles than in rows. Church isn't just about attending on Sundays; it's about doing life together as followers of Jesus Christ and expressing His love to the community we are planted in. We believe this is true not only of individuals, but also of congregations. Prompted by the Spirit, we invite opportunities to partner with other churches and ministries. We believe that we are better together than alone, and trust that God will bless unity and use it to demonstrate His heart to a watching world.

### **Live a Peacemaking Life**

A life of faith is meant to impact our entire being, including our conscience, our will, and our affections. Compartmentalized faith and relationships divided by hostilities and earthly differences of economics, age, and ethnicity will only yield a fraction of what life could be. We pursue life in harmony with God and others which gives us the clarity and courage to live justly, mercifully, and humbly.

### **Live a Spiritually Healthy Life**

We place a high value on healthy single, married, and family life. We want to help each other love God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and bodies. We desire to experience healing for generational patterns of dysfunction so that we can be spiritually, emotionally, and relationally healthy in the present. We strive to inspire future generations to claim their faith and establish their own authentic relationships with Jesus Christ.

### **Live a Generous Life**

We are never more like God than when we give. We've not only been given salvation through Jesus Christ but gifts of unique talents, abilities, and resources. We long to see lives given to God's work through generous contributions of service and resources in our church, in our community, and in our world.