## **LBCRC: Who We Are…**

**AN OVERVIEW**

**A Story…** The Bible tells of a pivotal moment.  Humanity was going from bad to worse; God took action. God blessed Abraham (no standout) in order to bless all peoples through him (Genesis 12.1-3).  This story points to what we're about at LBCRC.

**Our Need...** God created us to glorify God by enjoying him. Foolishly, and to a person, we seek fulfillment in other sources. This sin separates us from God and unleashes countless miseries. On our own, we cannot undo this damage.

**Our God...** Through the life, death, and resurrection of his son, Jesus Christ, God has acted to bring sinners home to himself. God graciously calls us to trust in Jesus for his forgiveness and new life. When we do, God welcomes us into his forever family, the church.

**Our Purpose...** Our church’s aim is to make new and better followers of Jesus - for God's glory! Or, to use the words of the Bible text mentioned above, to grow in receiving God’s blessing and in blessing others.  We are blessed to bless.

**Our Roots...** We are affiliated with the Christian Reformed Church in North America, a family of churches in the U.S. and Canada. Our roots are in the Protestant branch of the historic Christian Church which has existed for thousands of years and today spans the globe. The Bible is our guide for belief and living. We aim to be "re-formed" according to God's Word, and by the power of God's Spirit.

## **A CLOSER LOOK**

**Mission:**  to make new and better followers of Jesus Christ…for God’s glory!

## **Practices:**

            **Engage with God**

\*worship and rest from work each week

               \*reflect on the Bible, pray, respond to the Spirit’s promptings each day

               **Engage with God’s People**

\*form intentional relationships with believers of all ages

               \*give time, ability, and treasure for our church’s mission

**Engage with God’s World**

               \*serve those in need

               \*do good work and befriend someone on a journey to God

**About our Mission and Practices…**

\*Our mission is Jesus’ last command: “…*go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”* (Matthew 28.18-19a).  Jesus’ call to make new disciples helps fuel our desire to be better ones—which helps attract lost people to Jesus!

\*Our practices flow from Jesus’ first command: “*Come, follow me…”* (Matthew 4.19). Following Jesus means doing what he did: engage with God, God’s family, and God’s world. These lifelong practices enable us to grow in receiving and being transformed by God’s grace in Christ, no matter where we are on a discipleship continuum.