

Theology and Values

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

- The Bible is the foundation for our beliefs as it is summarized in The Apostles' Creed
- We identify with The Lausanne Covenant¹
- We identify with a classical Christian understanding in ethical questions

VALUES

Shared values are important for building strong friendships. Values are the basic assumptions that lead us to act the way we act. The following values are of great importance to us:

- **Missional:** The church's most important task is to fulfil The Great Commission. A church which is not trying to reach out with the Gospel is a contradiction in terms. We want to help local churches to fulfil The Great Commission locally, nationally and internationally. The Gospel should be communicated in word, in action, and in manifestation of the power of God.
- **The Presence of the Spirit:** We believe The Holy Spirit comes into our lives with revelation and healing. The Spirit distributes His gifts to whomever He wants - without distinction of nationality, gender or social standing – and we want to receive His gifts. The work of the Spirit will always be in accordance with the Word of God. In our life with the Spirit we will draw inspiration from church history as well as from current Christian movements.
- **The Kingdom of God:** The whole creation belongs to the Lord. In the New Covenant there is no holy/secular² divide. Because of this we rejoice in creativity and diversity. To be involved in social action and to work for justice is an important part of God's calling for His church.
- **Relational:** God is a fellowship, and this must be reflected in the church. Our primary call is to love God and one another, and our working together must flow from those relationships. Because of this, we want to create opportunities for leaders to build real friendships with other leaders. We believe leadership is a gift from God given to serve the community, and that leadership of churches ought to happen in team. Leadership is based on character, calling and anointing - not gender, age, education level or social status. We want to work for unity in the entire Body of Christ and will work with others wherever possible.
- **Openness:** Honesty and openness is vitally important for good relationships. This implies that we want to live transparent lives and that we can admit mistakes if they happen. This also leads us to speak truthfully about the situation in our own lives as well as in our ministries. While every individual and church is personally responsible to God for the decisions they make, the Bible shows us how we need to seek the advice of others as we are making important decisions.

¹ This document can be found in many languages at www.lausanne.org

² We believe that there should be no difference between priests and laity, nor between holy places and other places, nor between holy acts and the acts we do the rest of our life.