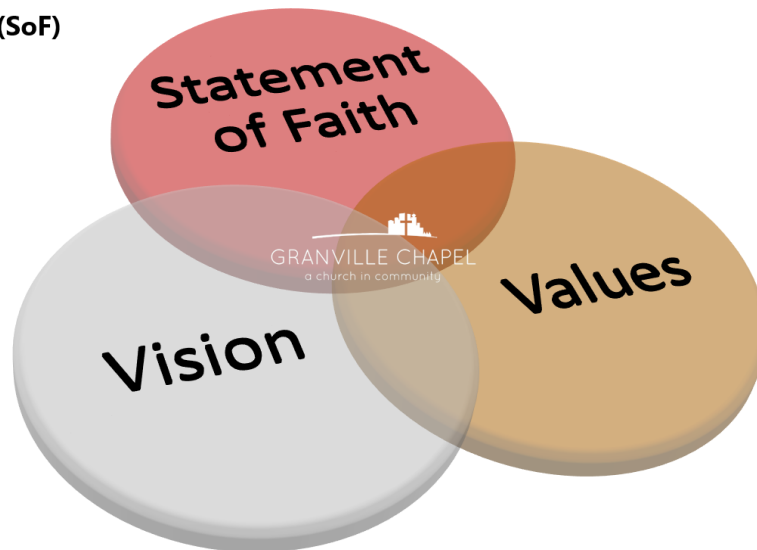


ABOUT US @ GRANVILLE CHAPEL v4.9

ABOUT US

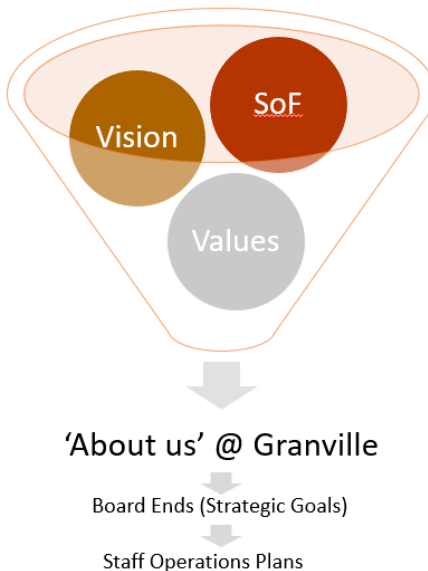
Who we are at Granville Chapel is defined by **three** core elements that harmonize with each other to make up the 'About Us' package:

- **Statement of Faith (SoF)**
- **Vision**
- **Values**



FROM GENERAL BELIEFS TO GRANVILLE DISTINCTIVES

The three core elements start with our general historic Christian beliefs (**Statement of Faith**) and can be distilled down to the **Vision** of who we want to be and to the **Values** that further define the cultural distinctives of Granville culture. These then inform the bigger picture goals and operational plans of the church.



STATEMENT OF FAITH

As a 'non-denominational' church, our statement of faith does not include specific denominational elements. We seek unity around the core beliefs of historic Christian faith.

GOD (Our Trinitarian Theology)

We believe in one true God, Creator of all things, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- **Genesis 1:1-2**
"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."
- **Deuteronomy 6:4:**
"⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."
- **Isaiah 44:6:**
"This is what the LORD says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God."
- **John 1:1-3:**
"¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made."
- **Acts 5:3-4:**
"³ Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?"

JESUS CHRIST (Our Christology)

We believe in Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life and voluntarily atoned for our sins by dying on the cross as our substitute. He was bodily resurrected and ascended into heaven where, at His Father's right hand, He is our High Priest and Mediator.

- **Matthew 1:23:**
²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"^[a] (which means "God with us").
- **Luke 24:39:**
³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."
- **John 1:1, 14:**
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- **Acts 4:12:**
¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."
- **Romans 3:22-25:**
²² This righteousness is given through faith in^[a] Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement,^[b] through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—
- **Romans 8:34:**
³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

- **1 Corinthians 15:4:**
⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,
- **2 Corinthians 5:21:**
²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin^[a] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
- **1 Timothy 2:5:**
⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,
- **Hebrews 8:1:**
⁸ Now the main point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,

HOLY SPIRIT (Our Pneumatology)

We believe in the Holy Spirit who indwells each believer, guiding, transforming, equipping, and empowering us for godly living and service.

- **John 3:5:**
⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.
- **Ephesians 1:13-14:**
¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.
- **Titus 3:5:**
⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

SCRIPTURE (Our Bibliology)

We believe in the Holy Scriptures as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy, timeless, and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

- **2 Timothy 3:16:**
¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,
- **2 Peter 1:20-21:**
²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

SIN (Our Hamartiology)

We believe in the universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature, bringing everyone under God’s divine judgment. Only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.

- **Job 15:14-16:**
“What are mortals, that they could be pure, or those born of woman, that they could be righteous? ¹⁵ If God places no trust in his holy ones, if even the heavens are not pure in his eyes, ¹⁶ how much less mortals, who are vile and corrupt, who drink up evil like water!
- **Psalms 53:3:**
“Everyone has turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one. “
- **Romans 3:23:**
²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- **Romans 5:12:**

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

SALVATION (Our Soteriology)

We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for redemption and salvation for all who repent and put their faith in Jesus Christ alone as Lord and Saviour.

- **John 3:16:**

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- **Ephesians 2:8-9:**

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

- **1 Timothy 2:5-6:**

⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

CHURCH (Our Ecclesiology)

We believe the true Church is composed of all who, through saving faith in Jesus Christ, are universally united together, the Body of Christ of which He is the Head. The Holy Spirit imparts gifts to every believer to exercise as servants and priests in the Church and in the world.

- **Ephesians 4:11-13:**

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

- **1 Corinthians 12:4-7:**

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

- **1 Peter 2:9:**

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

RESURRECTION (Our Eschatology)

We believe that Jesus Christ will come again personally, visibly, and bodily to consummate history and the eternal plan of God - the resurrection of the believer to everlasting blessing and joy with the Lord, and of the unbeliever to the judgment of God.

- **John 14:3:**
³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.
- **Acts 1:11:**
¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”
- **1 Corinthians 15:42-44:**
⁴² So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.
- **Hebrews 9:28:**
²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.
- **Revelation 20:11-15:**
¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵ Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.
- **Revelation 22:12-13:**
¹² “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

GRANVILLE VISION

The vision is our *ongoing* picture of a preferred future (Embracing the Scriptural concept of encompassing both the 'now' and the 'not yet').

'A COMMUNITY REFLECTING JESUS'

Key words & concepts:

'COMMUNITY':

A group of interacting individuals connected together. We are part of a greater whole. The Church universal and local.

- **Ephesians 4: 4-6**
⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
- **Hebrews 10:24-25**
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
- **1 Corinthians 12:25-27**
²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

'REFLECTING JESUS':

People living 'incarnationally' by embodying Jesus to others. By emulating Christ in relationship to the Father, to others, to self, and to creation. Also, to live a 'cruciform' life, shaped by Jesus' teachings, loving power and sacrifice.

- **Colossians 1: 15-16**
¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.
- **2 Corinthians 3:18**
¹⁸ And we all, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
- **Ephesians 4: 24**
⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.
- **Ephesians 5:1-2**
¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
- **Galatians 2:20**
²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- **Romans 8:29**
²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

- **John 8:12/ Matthew 5:14-16**

¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."/

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- **Colossians 2:2-3 , 3: 10-11**

² My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.



GRANVILLE CORE VALUES

Our values are the virtues (moral qualities) Granville has displayed throughout its history by the empowering of the Holy Spirit and aspires to exhibit to greater levels. They are the foundation of who we are and guide for how we live, engage and serve. Our values create the shared "culture" of the community.

PRAYER

We call on God through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit through prayer, both individually and corporately.

- **Luke 18: 1**
18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.
- **I Thessalonians 5: 17**
17 pray continually,
- **Matthew 7:11**
11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!
- **James 1: 5-6**
5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

PEOPLE

We embrace that all people are created in the image of God and we are a diverse community, woven together for His purposes.

- **Genesis 1: 27**
27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.
- **James 3: 9**
9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness.
- **Galatians 3: 26-28**
26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, 27 for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- **Colossians 3: 9-14**
9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
- **Romans 12: 4-6, 9-14**
4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. 9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practise hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.^[a] Do not be conceited.

- **1 Corinthians 12: 12-13**

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptised by^[a] one Spirit so as to form one body – whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

GRACE

We extend welcome, kindness and care to all people, acknowledging our shared brokenness and our mutual transformation into the image of Christ.

- **Romans 3: 10, 23**

*¹⁰ There is no one righteous, not even one;
²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

- **Colossians 3: 12, 4:6**

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

- **1 Peter 4: 10**

¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

- **Ephesians 4: 32**

³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

- **Romans 15: 5-7**

⁵ May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

GENEROSITY

We encourage and equip each other to extend & express the love of Jesus by selflessly sharing our time, finances, God-given talents and spiritual gifts in our community and around the world.

- **Philippians 2: 3-8**

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!

- **1 Timothy 6: 17-19**

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

- **Acts 20: 35**

³⁵ In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

- **1 John 3: 17-18**

⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

ENGAGEMENT

We intentionally participate with God's reconciliation of all things, being attentive to the people and places to join His work.

- **Colossians 1:19-20**

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

- **Ephesians 2:10**

¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- **Philippians 2:13**

¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

- **Luke 10: 30, 36-37**

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half-dead. - ³⁶ "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

- **1 Peter 3:15**

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

- **Mark 12:31**

³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.^a ³¹ The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself."^b There is no commandment greater than these.'

- **Matthew 28: 19-20**

¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

VISION:

*"A community reflecting
Jesus."*

THROUGH THE VALUES OF:

*Prayer
People
Grace
Generosity
Engagement*



DRAFT