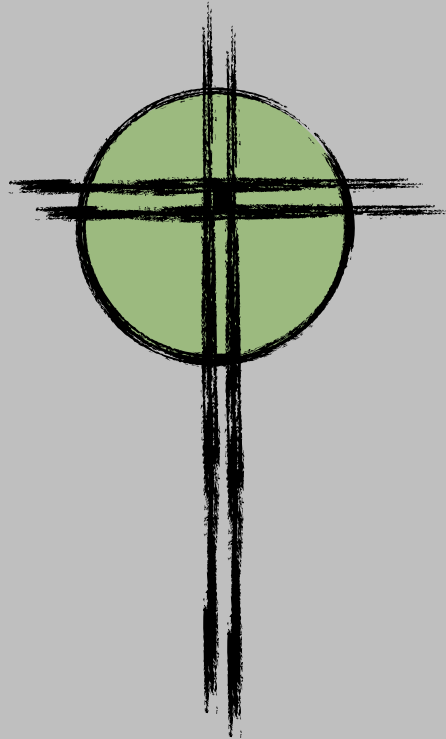


Bismarck Community Church

1617 Michigan Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58504



WHO

we are

mission



vision



values

What we
believe



Where we've been



Where we're going

701.223.3304
www.bismarckcc.org

Mission

Our mission is understand the good news about Jesus Christ, to grow in authentic Christian community, and to influence our world according to the Kingdom of God.

We like to sum it up by saying,

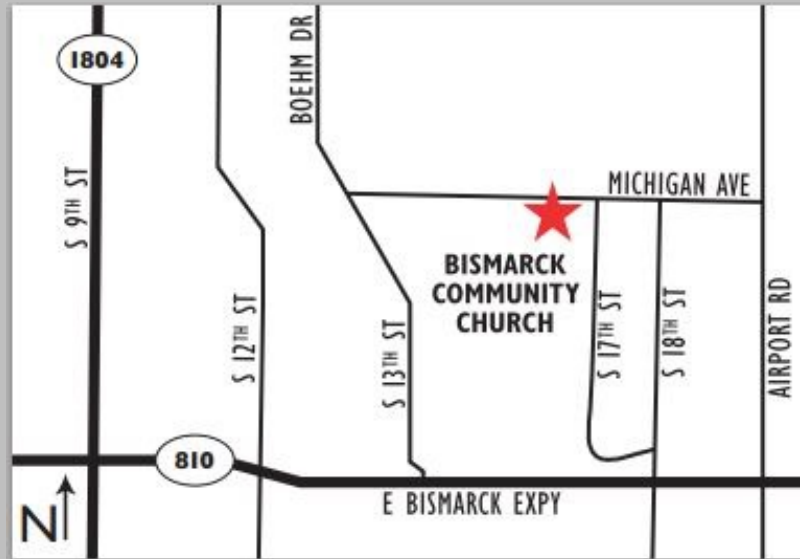
Be Loved, Go Deeper, Live it Out

This means we first want to understand the gospel. It is easy to forget the good news that Jesus Christ came to save sinners. When we regularly acknowledge this, and the need we have for him in our lives then this good news is set free in our lives to change us.

Second, we need one another. We were made for community, but we sometimes prefer to live solitary and individual lives. At BCC we strive to be in community with each other, authentic about our need for Christ and one another in order to live the lives he is calling us to live.

Third and finally, he is calling us to transform the world around us. We don't believe in waiting until we get to heaven, but we think Jesus is leading his people to make a difference right here in the world around us. We do this locally and internationally through ministries of the church and community partnerships.

It is our goal to live lives with purpose on mission with one another.



ADDRESS:
1617 Michigan Ave
Bismarck, ND 58501

CONTACT:
701.223.3304
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SERVICE TIMES:
9:15 and 11:00
(summer - 10:00 AM)

At Bismarck Community Church we celebrate that we are a “hospital for sinners.”

This means we don't think we are better than anyone else.

We try to focus first on our own weaknesses, inconsistencies, and flaws. It is here that the Grace of God meets us.

There is no person who is too good for the grace of God. Before we do anything else we want to allow the grace of God in Christ to meet us right where we are, and we start with our empty hands and our need for the Gospel.

Vision

It is our vision to become a community of people rooted in God's story planting other communities rooted in God's Story.



The Story of God's action in the world is depicted in the painting we hang prominently in our worship center. Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration. This is the story that explains the way it was supposed to be. Why things sometimes feel broken, why the world is not as it should be. And yet, God in his goodness through Jesus Christ has come to restore all that was lost in the fall and promises to return again and finally and fully set things right again. We believe that this worldview brings both understanding and meaning to where we find ourselves. It also offers hope to the brokenhearted who are longing for things to be set right. We long to see this worldview elevate the work of Jesus in our hearts, transform our lives, and by the grace of God, transform our community as well.

Values

The Gospel - The Good news about how Jesus has and is rescuing a People for God, setting us free from shame, fear, sin, and doubt to live a new life.

Community (*The People of God*) - Because we need one another to help us grow and experience God's love and grace, we will continue to work for a deeper sense of community.

Mission (*The Kingdom of God*) - Because God is pushing darkness and sin out of our lives, families, and the world, we will join in whatever work of restoration he is doing around us.

Discipleship - Because God has rescued us and called us to be a part of his work, we are committed to becoming more like Christ.



The diagram above illustrates how everything we do is centered on the gospel, and ultimately feeds back to the gospel as we seek to build a more Gospel Centered community.

What We Believe

God - We believe in one eternal, knowable, sovereign God. He knows all things, and providentially oversees all things. He is merciful, and just, loving, and holy, great in power and good in purpose. His glory is our chief concern.

Trinity - We believe in one God who exists in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All three are uncreated, co-eternal, and equal in power, glory, and honor. They are rightly worshiped as the one true God—three in one, and one in three.

Scripture - We believe, that while God has revealed himself in his creation, he has spoken to us most clearly in his word. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are breathed out by God, holy, complete, and entirely without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is our final authority in life, doctrine, and godliness.

Creation - We believe God created the entire universe out of nothing. Man and woman were the crown of God's good creation, being created in his own image. As image-bearers, we were created to worship God and reflect him in true knowledge, righteousness, and holiness.

Fall - We believe that Adam and Eve, our first parents, rebelled against God and plunged themselves and all their offspring into ruin. Because of Adam's sin, we are all guilty sinners. We come into the world with corrupt natures through and through. We are spiritually dead until God makes us alive in Christ.

Human Nature - We believe that each person is made in the image of God, and that we all have something good that reflects His image. However, we also believe that because of the fall we are all like broken mirrors. While we reflect some part of God's design we do so poorly. Every part of our being: body, mind, and soul, bears the marks of corruption because of the fall.

Jesus Christ - We believe Jesus of Nazareth was and is the Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One. We believe he is also the Son of the Living God. He is fully man and fully God. He was born of the virgin Mary, lived a perfect life, taught the way of God's kingdom, worked miracles, suffered, died, and bodily rose again. We believe Jesus Christ lived a perfect life and died a shameful death that we might be counted righteous and forgiven of our sins. He was our sacrificial substitute. He defeated the devil, removed our guilt, and became a curse for us, bearing the weight of God's wrath.

Salvation - We believe that we are justified—declared righteous before God—through faith alone in Christ alone by grace alone. The only way to be adopted into God's family is through union with his Son, Jesus Christ.

Holy Spirit - We believe the Holy Spirit, working through the word, supernaturally converts (regenerates) the hearts of the people of God by making alive what was spiritually dead. The Spirit convicts us of sin, leads us to repentance, causes us to grow in holiness, seals us for the day of redemption that we might be assured of our salvation, and equips us with spiritual gifts for the building up of the body.

Church - We believe the church is the communion of God's people drawn from every tribe, language, people, and nation and even across all of time. This invisible body, of which Christ Jesus is the head, exists locally, and imperfectly, as the visible church. Jesus Christ has given his church two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Marks and Mission - We believe the people of God should be marked by Christ-likeness, prayerfulness, joyful obedience, love of God and love of neighbor. We believe the mission of the church is to make disciples by declaring the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Spirit to the glory of God the Father. As salt and light, we seek to save the lost, love others in word and deed, work for righteousness and justice, and care for the hurting and needy.

Changed Life - We believe that to be a follower of Jesus means our lives will gradually be transformed. We are not changed primarily by our hard work or "pulling ourselves up from the bootstraps." Rather we are changed by believing the gospel more and more in our daily lives and struggles.

Last Things - We believe Jesus Christ will return to earth personally, visibly, and bodily as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. At his appearing the dead shall be raised and the living and the dead will be judged. The wicked and unbelieving will be consigned to eternal punishment. Those belonging to Jesus will have eternal life in the new heavens and the new earth and live in ever-increasing joy to the glory of God.

On Contemporary Issues

Human Sexuality - We believe that God created sex as a good gift to bring a man and wife closer together in a covenant, marriage relationship. Marriage is the building block of all human flourishing. It is the loving environment where children are nurtured and taught what it means to be human. We strive to protect this institution through encouraging the good aspects of Human sexuality while warning of the harmful aspects of using sex purely for self pleasure.

Life - We recognize the value of every human life. We belong to God, not ourselves. As such it is up to him when we gasp for our last breath. All humans are valuable and beautiful from the unborn child to the handicapped to the elderly on their death bed. Death is a part of the fall, yet there is dignity in even those who are dying. Caring for the dying is a transformational part of being human that should not be avoided or relegated to dark rooms out of sight of the rest of the world.

Peacemaking - We recognize that the church may take controversial stands on these issues, which may cause pain and hurt to those who disagree. We seek to speak honestly about these things while still being committed to loving those who disagree and seeking reconciliation and life giving relationship with every individual. Whether they be pro-choice activists or LGBT. Many have been wounded by hurtful words from God's people. Because of this we always seek to bring truth, love and grace to every relationship.

Where We've Been

Bismarck Community Church was planted as "Bismarck Reformed Church" in 1957 by members of Hope Reformed Church in Westfield, ND and Strasburg Reformed Church in Strasburg, ND.

Since that time we have grown and built several additions to our facility.

One of the strongest seasons of growth was in the mid seventies when an "Evangelism Explosion" project was begun. This helped members of Bismarck Community Church learn the importance of outreach, both for themselves and for the community around them.

Another growth phase began in the 80's through a contemporary worship service and then in the 90's when the new worship center was built.

In 2012 we launched an aggressive partnership with a church in Ethiopia to help build a gospel oriented community development project in that country. Through this we are learning how to do similar things here in our own community.

Since 1973 we have only had three pastors. This sort of sustained ministry has helped us to remain a constant presence of hope and grace to the community of Bismarck.

Where We're Going

We believe we are poised now for a new phase of growth. With a recent addition of two service times and **new outreach efforts** into our community, we are seeking to bring hope to a world wounded by the fall.

In the coming years we plan to become a church that primarily ministers to one another and to its community through **authentic relationships**. We are seeking to build relationships with other organizations and churches in our community as well as with individuals in all walks of life. It is primarily through relationships that we hope to bring truth, love and gospel transformation to our community.

We hope to **plant other places of worship** which will help people across Bismarck Mandan find an authentic, worshipping community of people where grace is an ever present reality.

Our dream is to grow in **personal discipleship**, a **lifestyle of ministry** and eventually send out a new community of Jesus followers to meet for worship at another location and **replicate ourselves**.