

The 167th General Assembly adopted a vision of ministry for the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Below is that statement and ways Cumberland Presbyterians through Our United Outreach are continuing that vision.

Its purpose is to provide for a grateful response to God in an orderly and responsible manner.

It is not a burden; it is the joyful and grateful response of God's people to what God has done for them.

It is not an assessment; it is an avenue to a wider sharing of God's good news.

It is time for individuals and churches to live out of grateful response to God in the sharing of gifts....

...when a Christian shares his/her gifts with the church,...those gifts, whether small or large, are shared with the WHOLE church because the church is ONE.

Quotes taken from the 1985 General Assembly Minutes, pages 167ff.

Biblically-based and Christ-centered,

Our United Outreach exemplifies the ideas found in the Bible and promoted by Jesus Christ. Since 1985, Cumberland Presbyterians have voluntarily given ten percent, a tithe, of their church's income to help others grow in their mission, education and stewardship. We show our love for others in the programs of Our United Outreach.

born out of a specific sense of mission,

Together by giving to Our United Outreach, Cumberland Presbyterians are reaching out. We have heard the cries of those in need and have been willing to give of our abundance to those without abundance. Through Our United Outreach, our ministries can overflow into the lives of others giving comfort where there is pain, healing where there is hurt.

the Cumberland Presbyterian Church strives to be true to its heritage:

We have always been a people out on the frontier, pioneering a new way. The same is true today. As we have become more global, we recognize the many talents of those who live and minister in other regions of the world. Our vision is to equip and empower all to proclaim the gospel of Christ. We are empowered to empower others through our giving.

to be open to God's reforming spirit,

We are aware that God is always speaking to us—remolding us into a vessel that might be used for God's glory. Our United Outreach giving helps fund ministries that hear and answer the call of the Holy Spirit.

to work cooperatively with the larger Body of Christ,

We are an ecumenical people and our work with other Christians is funded in part by the gifts given through Our United Outreach. With these gifts, we are able to write curriculum, learn about cutting edge funding opportunities, and provide jobs for those who are less fortunate.

and to nurture the connectional bonds that make us one.

Through Church agencies and the concerns of local congregations, ministries are created to meet the needs of all people from revitalizing congregations and presbyteries, to nurturing clergy and laity, to establishing new congregations. Through Our United Outreach, Cumberland Presbyterians are able to hold fast to our identity as people of God.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church seeks to be the hands and feet of Christ in witness and service to the world.

What does it mean to be the hands and feet of Christ in witness and service to the world? In the past, it has meant to stand up with those who alone could not stand, to love those for whom love was not possible, to show Christ's example to those who do not even know Christ. Our vision is the same today, to be Christ's presence for those who do not know him.

Above all, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church lives out the love of God to the glory of Jesus Christ.

As God continues to give the Cumberland Presbyterian Church a clearer vision to move forward with our ministry, may God also give us loving hearts to see the need and together work toward being the presence of Jesus Christ in the world.

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The earth
is the Lord's and
all that is in it, the world
and all those who dwell therein.
PSALM 24:1



"All we have here is
five loaves and two fishes."
"Let me have them," he replied.
They all ate to their heart's content.
MATTHEW 14:17ff.