



# growthtrack

Step One: MyCountryside







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# PART 1: COUNTRYSIDE'S STORY

*"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you" 1 Thessalonians 3:12*

## Our Mission Statement:

Countryside Christian Church exists to love God and love people.

## The Countryside CHIME:

- Grow in Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_
- Express Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_
- Spread Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_
- Fulfill our loving \_\_\_\_\_
- Do all things with \_\_\_\_\_

The Holy Spirit can move through us together as wind moves through a CHIME, expressing His love and purpose much like the sound of praise.

## The Goal of MyCountryside

The Goal of MyCountryside is to help you learn more about your church home so you can be a part of what God is doing at Countryside.



**Lead Pastors  
Glenn and  
Elaine Davis**



# HOW DOES COUNTRYSIDE LOVE GOD AND LOVE PEOPLE?

*"We want everyone who comes in to feel loved, that they have a place, and that every person matters."*

- Pastor Glenn

## Weekend Experience

The purpose of the weekend experience is to provide a life-giving environment of friends where everyone can experience God's love, people's love, the inspiration of worship, and the encouragement of God's Word.

*"You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the Day coming."* Hebrews 10:25

## How do we Achieve This Experience?

1. Cultivating a welcoming environment where everyone feels at home.
2. Providing a safe, Christ-Centered, and fun place for children.
3. Celebrating God through a sincere worship experience.
4. Explaining and applying the Word of God through practical teaching.

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## Sharing Christ with our Community

Our mission at Countryside is to take the love we have for God and people to the community. We want everyone to know that we have a \_\_\_\_\_ for them in our family and we are \_\_\_\_\_ when they attend. We also extend this sense of welcoming love everywhere we go. We don't believe Countryside is only about what happens during our services on campus; we believe in taking the message of God's grace and forgiveness through Christ to our local community and to the world.

## How do we Achieve This?

- **Local Outreach**

We invest in our Community by providing food and resources to those in need through our food pantry, Helping Hands, and we partner with a number of local organizations to spread the love of Jesus.

- **Global Missions**

We make it a priority to connect with others throughout the world in order to spread the Good News of Jesus. Come help us make a difference in the world together!

- **Online Experience**

We want people to experience the love of Christ wherever they are, even if they can't make it to church. People can participate with us online from all over the world and we even stream in places like homeless shelters and jails.

The last thing Jesus said to the disciples was "go into all the world and preach the gospel." "Preach the gospel" is the mission Jesus gives us all, and it simply means to share the wonderful news of forgiveness through Christ. We do this by telling others what God has done in our lives, inviting friends and family to church, and serving others. **We want to make it very hard for others to feel lost by making it very easy for them to find a home in church.**

\_\_\_\_\_ %

What percentage of people in our area do not attend church?

\_\_\_\_\_ %

What percentage of people would attend if invited?

**Invest and \_\_\_\_\_**





# THE ESSENTIALS WE BELIEVE

## Statement of Faith

### SALVATION

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts.

*Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5;  
Romans 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22*

### REPENTANCE

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation.

*Acts 2:21, 3:19; 1 John 1:9*

### SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.

*1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3,  
Romans 8:29, 12:1-2, Hebrews 2:11*

### HOLY BIBLE

The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant.

*2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26*

### TRINITY

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and co-eternal.

*1 John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19;  
Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11*





## **HOLY SPIRIT**

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are for today. The Holy Spirit is active in the church and in the lives of mankind. The baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are available to bring power and encouragement to every believer.

*John 7:37-39, John 16:5-14, Acts 2:1-13, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

## **JESUS CHRIST**

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind and thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory.

*John 1:1,14, 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 2:5*

## **VIRGIN BIRTH**

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God.

*Matthew 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27-35*

## **REDEMPTION**

Man was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression he fell; his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

*Genesis 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21*

## **REGENERATION**

For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

*John 6:44, 65; Matthew 19:28; Titus 3:5*

## **JESUS' BLOOD**

The Blood that Jesus Christ shed on the Cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100% sufficient to cleanse mankind of all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death.

*1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5, 5:9; Colossians 1:20;  
Romans 3:10-12, 23, 5:9; John 1:29*

## JESUS CHRIST INDWELLS ALL BELIEVERS

Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to him thus making Jesus the Lord of their life as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried, and rose again from the dead.

*John 1:12; John 14:17, 23; John 15:4; Romans 8:11; Revelation 3:20*

## THE CHURCH

The church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person who is born of the Spirit is an integral part of the church as a member of the body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23*





**In Essential Beliefs — We Have \_\_\_\_\_**

*“There is one Body and one Spirit... there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of us all...” - Ephesians 4:4-6*

**In Non-Essential Beliefs — We Have \_\_\_\_\_**

*“Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters...Who are you to judge someone else’s servant? To his own master he stands or falls...So then each of us will give an account of himself to God...So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God.” - Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22*

**In All Our Beliefs — We Show \_\_\_\_\_**

*“If I hold in my mind not only all human knowledge but also the very secrets of God, and if I have the faith that can move mountains - but have no love, I amount to nothing at all.” - 1 Corinthians 13:2*







# LIFE AS A CHRIST FOLLOWER

The Bible clearly outlines what the life of a Christ-follower looks like. Based on the Word of God, we believe...

- ***The Bible Is Our Authority***

*“The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us to do what is right.”*

- 2 Timothy 3:16

- ***Christ-Followers Are Generous***

*“The generous will prosper: those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.”*

- Proverbs 11:25

- ***Giving Tests the Sincerity of My Love for God***

*“Since you excel in so many ways--you have so much faith, such gifted speakers, such knowledge, such enthusiasm, and such love for us--now I want you to excel also in this gracious ministry of giving... This is one way to prove your love is real.”*

- 2 Corinthians 8:7-8

- ***Christ-Followers Tithed of Their Income to God***

*“A tithe of everything you produce belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.” - Leviticus 27:30*

*“Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.” - Proverbs 3:9-10*

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- **Christ-Followers Should Be Water Baptized**

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” - Matthew 28:19*

- **Christ-Followers Learn, Grow and Act like Jesus**

*“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.” - John 8:31*

# The Bible is our authority.



## **PART 2: GROWTH TRACK**

### **MyCountryside**

With My Countryside, you will learn more about your church home. Knowing this will help you CHIME in and be a part of what God is doing.

### **MyFamily**

With My Family, you will be able to more easily connect with other people in the church. We don't just want to be a church that "feels friendly"; we are a church where genuine friendships are made for life. God's best for each one of us happens in the context of life-giving relationships.

### **MyPlace**

With My Place, you will be able to identify the gifts God has given you that make you a unique and vital part of our church family. My Place is a journey of discovering your part in God's plan for us as a church.



# PART 3: OUR CHURCH DESIGN

*“For God is not a God of disorder, but of peace... Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.” 1 Corinthians 14:33, 40*

## 1. The church is defined as a \_\_\_\_\_.

*“They continued steadfastly in the teaching of the apostles, and joined in the fellowship.” Acts 2:42*

**A top priority in a fellowship is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:3*

*“So let us concentrate on the things that make for harmony and the growth of our fellowship together.” Romans 14:19*

**Any attitude or action that causes disharmony is sin.**

Other Scriptures: Col 3:15; 1 Cor 1:10; 2 Tim 2:14; Pr 17:14; 2 Cor 13:11; Phil 1:27, 2:1-3; Col 2:2; Phil 4:2; 1 Pet 3:8; 1 Cor 14:33; John 13:34-35; 2 Tim 2:23; Rom 15:5-6; Rom 12:16-18; Col 3:13-14; Ps 133:1

**A good church design promotes unity and downplays \_\_\_\_\_.**

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2. The church is developed as a \_\_\_\_\_:  
therefore, we operate on the basis of \_\_\_\_\_, not rules.

*“You should be like one big happy family, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds.” 1 Peter 3:8*

3. The church is designed as a \_\_\_\_\_:  
therefore, we function on the basis of \_\_\_\_\_ gifts, not arbitrary assignments.

*“Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.” Romans 12:4-6*

4. The church is described as a \_\_\_\_\_:  
therefore, it is cared for and led by \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Jesus asked Simon Peter, ‘Do you really love me?’ ‘Yes Lord,’ said Peter. ‘Then take care of my sheep.’” John 21:16-17*

**We are a **body**,  
not a bureaucracy.**

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**We are an **organism**,  
not an organization.**





# ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OUR CHURCH

## The Role of the Executive Board

The Executive Board provides protective covering and guidance for the church relating to bylaws and business, as well as advice and support to the Senior Pastor. Executive Board members are nominated by the Senior Pastor and ratified by the Board of Deacons.

## The Role of the Pastoral Team and Ministry Leads

The Pastoral Team and ministry leads, directed by the Senior Pastor, oversee the day-to-day ministry and operations of the Church.

## The Role of the Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons is a committed group of leaders already serving long-term in other areas of ministry. They are invited by the senior Pastor to ratify Executive Board members and their own leadership.

## The Role of the Association of Related Churches (ARC)

ARC is an association of like-minded Churches numbering over 500 and growing. The purpose of ARC is to provide support, guidance and resources to launch and grow life-giving churches. It is not a denomination, but rather an association of churches linking arms for a common goal to spread the gospel. Countryside is honored to be an ARC Church to help start and grow new churches all over the world.



## PART 4: WHAT NOW?

The difference between “attenders” and “members” can be summed up in one word: \_\_\_\_\_. Membership is a simple matter of committing to the Countryside CHIME.

Having attended My Countryside and being in agreement with what I have heard today, I agree to the following:

- ***I will commit to opening my life to Jesus'*** \_\_\_\_\_
  - By attending faithfully
  - By reading God’s Word and applying it to my life
  - By developing healthy friendships
  
- ***I will commit to learning how to align my desires to Jesus'*** \_\_\_\_\_
  - By growing in my relationship with God
  - By walking in forgiveness
  - By an openness to “doing life together” with others at Countryside
  
- ***I will commit to spread Jesus'*** \_\_\_\_\_
  - By learning to love my “loved ones” better
  - By inviting others to experience a service or event at Countryside
  - By praying for the Senior Pastor and leaders at Countryside
  
- ***I will commit to doing my part to fulfill our loving*** \_\_\_\_\_
  - By tithing to my local church
  - By serving somewhere here in my local church
  
- ***I will commit to strive for*** \_\_\_\_\_
  - By serving for God’s glory instead of my own
  - By putting God first in my heart
  - By making God’s work through my church one of the priorities in my life



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