



*The beautiful wind-swept oak trees are a striking and distinctive feature of the Aransas County landscape. Just as the wind and the salt air shapes the oaks, we believe that the powerful presence of God is shaping us with the love of Jesus Christ!*

### **Our Mission**

*The mission of FBC Rockport is to lead all people to be shaped by the love of Christ.*

### **Our Core Values**

*We believe His love is shaping us through the lordship of Jesus Christ.*

*We believe His love is shaping us through the authority of Holy Scripture.*

*We believe His love is shaping us through a commitment to prayer.*

*We believe His love is shaping us through times of corporate worship.*

*We believe His love is shaping us as we proclaim the gospel and call for a response.*

*We believe His love is shaping us through the spiritual growth of our members.*

*We believe His love is shaping us through a Christ-like love permeating every aspect of church life.*

### **Our Discipleship Strategy**

*Our strategy for making disciples of Jesus Christ comes from the Great Commission, the Great Commandment, and from our Core Values. At FBC Rockport we believe a disciple is someone who is shaped by the love of Christ...*

*To **WORSHIP** the Lord with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength*

*To **CONNECT** with other believers*

*To **GROW** in Christ-likeness*

*To **SERVE** God and others*

*To **REACH** out to a lost world with the love of Christ*

*We strive to align our ministry efforts with our discipleship strategy.*

# A PHILOSOPHY FOR MINISTRY

*“To each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. And He gave some as apostles, some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.”*  
(Ephesians 4:7, 11-13, NASB)

**Foundation for Ministry.** God has called men and women to serve Him in church staff positions, which means that they are to be *equippers*—preparing God’s people to do the work of ministry in and through the local church. This preparation involves leading those people to be growing disciples of Jesus Christ as defined in our discipleship strategy.

**Definition of Ministry.** Ministry is doing what must be done to bring the will and love of God to bear in the lives of persons who exhibit a need. It may be as simple as praying for an individual or as complex as organizing and conducting a full program to address particular needs for many people.

- A. **Ministerial Leadership.** Our Ministerial Staff does not serve by leading, but leads by serving. They offer their lives to serve Christ and His mission, and in humility and love they follow the example of Christ by pursuing the welfare of their fellow servants (Mark 9:35, 10:43-45).
- B. **Ministry as Relationship Building.** Ministers will have a program area through which people will be encountered. These persons, along with their families and the lay leaders who work with them, should be recognized as the staff minister’s primary objects of ministry.
- C. **Evangelism and Outreach.** Some persons encountered will not be Christians, and the minister should seek to reach every person in a group for Christ and church membership. It is also the responsibility of every minister to look beyond the existing group for persons with whom to share Christ.
- D. **Programming and Activities.** The most visible part of a staff member’s work will be in conducting programs and activities. Ministers should pay careful attention to administrative details, including communication with the church, those who are to be involved and other staff.
- E. Other details, which must be addressed, include budgeting, calendaring, physical needs, lay leadership involvement, and planning for evaluation of events.
- F. **Cooperative Relationships with Other Ministers.** The church staff must work together, so part of the task of every member of the staff is to build mutually supportive relationships with co-workers. The goal is for each minister to demonstrate and to find in others trust, respect, confidence, and responsibility in the fulfillment of all assigned duties.