**NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH FOOD PANTRY PHILOSOPHY**

MISSION STATEMENT

*To serve Christ and participate in His compassion by sharing food and offering His message of hope.*

Biblical Foundation – Matthew 25:35,40

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me….Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”*

Core Values of New Hope Community Church

*1. Prayer will be the foundation of all we do.*

The food pantry ministry is committed to:

* Praying as individuals for each other and the food pantry ministry.
* Praying as a team on Tuesday and Wednesday for each other and the food pantry ministry.
* Requesting prayers from the congregation for the food pantry ministry.
* Opening food pantry with prayer. (English/Spanish when available)
* Having individual prayer request sheets available for those who come.
* Having a prayer team available to pray individually (1:1 same sex) and/or as a group with and for those who come.
* Prayer team members letting each other know where they are at all times.
* Offering any healing prayer time outside of food pantry hours.

*2. Grace – we will show Christ’s grace to each person who comes, regardless of where they are on their faith journey, their socio-economic class or ethnic background.*

The food pantry ministry is committed to:

* Being respectful to each other and those who come.
* Being a welcoming and comfortable place to those who come.
* Being a safe place for all who come (unused rooms locked and all areas monitored).
* Staying safe – any crisis safety concern should be brought to a member of the leadership team immediately. (at least two members will address the issue)
* Resolving conflicts between each other and those who come (all are asked to address potential conflict issues immediately – any assistance required is available through the leadership team.

*3. Evangelism – We will keep evangelism at the forefront of our ministry.*

The food pantry ministry is committed to:

* Relational evangelism with all those who come.
* Offering Bible verses, Bibles and other materials to all who come.
* Offering an opportunity to meet and share our faith with those who come.
* Using music and video’s to share Christ’s message.

*4. Mission – we will care for people in all aspects of their lives.*

The food pantry ministry is committed to:

* Providing nutritional food for those who come.
* Assisting those who require other available resources.
* Providing an information card with listed resources.

*5. Relevance – the church will be relevant to our community and 21st century culture.*

The food pantry ministry is committed to:

* Serving our present community food needs.