

Exhibit B to Minutes of 2023 District Conference

*Western Plains Church of the Brethren
As amended and edited by District Conference, July 22, 2023*

Purpose Statement

The Western Plains Church of the Brethren in supporting our congregations in our life together, Reflects, Proclaims and Practices God's Love and Good News in Christ to all Creation.

Core Values

Overarching value: God as Creator, Christ as Center, and Holy Spirit as Guide

Core Value #1 – Christ-like Love

We are part of the larger Body of Christ who:

- Share a life together governed by God's Love
- Love all persons regardless of where they are on their journey
- Take Christ's Call to Love into our neighborhoods and our world without reservation.

Core Value #2 – Root Community in Scripture and Prayer

As the "Priesthood of All Believers" we:

- Receive Scripture as essential in pursuing and knowing God.
- Recognize prayer as an integral part of District life and mission.
- Hold each other and our world in prayer.

Core Value #3 – Building Bridges among communities

We are a peace church of disciples who:

- Embody peace and reconciliation in Christ for all.
- Commit to a culture of hospitality for those with whom we disagree.
- Pursue ministry in unity, to meet specific needs across the District and in our unique communities, including those who are marginalized.

Core Value #4 – Christ's Peace for all creation and relationships

In our Brethren Identity, we:

- Pursue the wholistic care of creation that nurtures its well-being.
- Are obligated to love all of creation
- Commit to a nonviolent way of living

Core Value #5 – Service

As communities of Brethren, we:

- Look to follow Jesus as our example.
- Serve others in Jesus' Name, that they might see the Kingdom of God.
- Serve others in obedience to Jesus, when he said, "Love God, and love your neighbor as yourself."

Core Value #6 – Living Simply

As the District family, we:

- Are centered in Jesus Christ as our first love, beyond cultural pressures and persuasions.
- Believe in God's provision for all our needs.

Mission Statement

Centered in Christ, we are a Church of the Brethren District, inspired to energize, empower and embolden congregations to follow Jesus in our varied neighborhoods in Western Plains.