

MISSION STATEMENT

KEY WORD HEAT MAP

11 – Christ
12 – Worshiping
9 – Welcoming
7 – Love
7 – Apostolic
7 – Faith
5 – Community
4 – Teaching/Educating
4 – Jesus
4 – Disciples
4 – Service
3 – Salvation
3 – Orthodox
2 – Stewardship
2 – Prayer
2 – Sacraments
2 – Gospel
2 – Grow

DRAFT SAMPLE MISIONS STATEMENTS INCORPORATING HEAT MAPPED RESULTS

(the final version can begin "St Stephen Orthodox Church...")

1. We worship Jesus Christ in the fullness of the Orthodox faith, and form disciples through prayer, sacramental life, and serving our community in love.
2. We worship Jesus Christ, live the Orthodox faith, form disciples, and welcome all through love and service.
3. We are a welcoming Orthodox Christian community that worships Christ, forms disciples, lives the Apostolic faith, and serves the world in love.

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ORIGINAL MISSION STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS

- Responsible stewardship, and welcome all with open hearts and hospitality
- Guided by faithfulness, we commit to educate, serve, and support our parish family, practice responsible stewardship, and welcome all with open hearts and hospitality
- St. Stephen Orthodox Church seeks to build a community of God fearing and faithful parishioners who wish to welcome and usher newcomers into the light of salvation through the truth of Orthodoxy and our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Mission of St Stephens Orthodox Church is to: Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples.
- We are an Orthodox parish devoted to loving and worshiping Jesus Christ. We strive to be faithful disciples growing together through prayer, service and compassion.
- St. Stephen Orthodox Church is a Christ-centered community that worships God in the fullness of the ancient Apostolic Faith, grows together in holiness through the sacraments, and shares Christ love and mercy with all.
- An Orthodox Community bearing witness to -
 - The Risen Christ,
 - The truth and beauty of the Ancient Apostolic Faith,
 - Union with Christ through Holy Sacraments,
 - The welcoming of all to grow in the merciful grace and love of Christ.
- Foremost we worship the Holy Trinity utilizing Holy Christian Orthodox church services in English following the new calendar. We welcome all to join us in worship and encourage engagement in church life through a vibrant ministry program. Actively engaged in a long-term program to construct a temple to provide a worthy place for worshipping our Lord and Savior in central Florida.
- The mission of St. Stephen the Protomartyr Orthodox Church is to spread the gospel like the apostles, worship God like the cherubim, and love the world like Christ loves the world.
- To Grow together toward Christ through loving each other, worship in Liturgy, and serving our Community.
- To propagate Apostolic Catholicism through worship, education, stewardship and fellowship in a manner that leads to personal salvation.

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- The Mission of St. Stephen's is to be a Christ-centered community welcoming all people to grow spiritually in the fullness of the Orthodox Christian faith through love, worship, and service.
- St. Stephen Orthodox Christian Church will foremost be a place of worship, prayer, and the Eucharist, built on the teachings of Jesus Christ, the holy apostles, and our Church Fathers; We will welcome strangers; minister to the needy; visit the sick; and embrace our brothers and sisters in Christ with love ; We will provide the faithful—both children and adults--with opportunities to learn, grow, worship, and transform their lives “...for a Christian end to our life, peaceful without shame and suffering, and for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.”
- As an Orthodox Church in America parish, our mission is to bring people into a living relationship with Jesus Christ through worship, teaching, sacramental life, and loving outreach
- At St. Stephen the Protomartyr Church, we welcome to share in Christ's love and our apostolic traditions. We grow together through heartfelt worship, lifelong learning, and a dedicated spirit of service and fellowship to one another and our community.
- We at St. Stephens are centered on unwavering devotion to Jesus Christ, proclaiming his Gospel through evangelism and mission, inviting all to a loving, multi-ethnic Orthodox family grounded in faith and love together with faithfulness to the apostolic faith that has prevailed for over 2000 years.
- St Stephen Church bears witness to the God of Glory and forms a community full of faith and the Holy Spirit.
- To make disciples in love and authentic Christian teaching.
- St. Stephen's should be an outstanding and upstanding example of the Love of Christ to the community of Central Florida and should forever work to become the true image of Christ so that all may see Him and come to salvation in Him.
- The mission of St. Stephen's is to bring heaven to earth through worship and fellowship so that all may know God.
- To remain steadfast in the Orthodox tradition amid a changing world.
- Be a place where we encounter God and be transformed into disciples and faithful members of the Body of Christ.

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- Grow our Orthodox community by teaching and living the unchanged Faith of the Apostles and Saints while encouraging others to embrace the Faith of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.