

## \_\_\_\_\_ \* as a Center for Health and Healing: A Declaration of Intent

As Christ was and is a center for health and healing, so too must the body of Christ at \_\_\_\_\_ \* be a center for the health and healing. Matthew 9:35 says, “*Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the Good News about the kingdom, and healing all kinds of diseases and sicknesses.*” As we at \_\_\_\_\_ \* prepare for and undertake an advancement of our health and healing ministries, including the health and healing of all kinds of diseases and illnesses, we do so with the following considerations.

1. We recognize the solid scriptural support for such an endeavor in both the Old and New Testaments. Health and healing are major themes of the entire bible.
2. Such advancement in our health and healing ministries represents a better modeling of the whole ministry of Christ which includes his teaching, preaching, AND healing. There will be no lessening of our teaching of the faith or in the preaching of the gospel. Health and healing ministries are an additional focus.
3. We recognize the great value of traditional medical care and regard such care as a Godly blessing. We also recognize all of health and healing does not come from professional healers (e.g. doctors and nurses), hospitals, or other representatives and institutions of the health care industry. We as a group of parishioners at \_\_\_\_\_ \* are a center for health and healing and have something meaningful to offer too – including something meaningful for *all* kinds of diseases and illnesses.
4. We recognize the need to become more informed on health and healing. We need to learn what good science says and what the bible says. The bible is a rich source of health information and health principles, and we as a community of faith will benefit from this additional and Godly perspective on health and healing.
5. Through formal and informal methods we will identify the health ministry needs of our congregation and the community we serve.
6. We will identify the health resources within our congregation. We at \_\_\_\_\_ \* are a rich source of talent and compassion.
7. We will maximize the effectiveness of our existing health and healing ministries, and to better serve our congregation and community we will launch additional health and healing ministries.
8. We will maintain an on-going awareness of the health messages communicated at \_\_\_\_\_ \*. As an institution of our community what we do by example has great power.
9. We will identify a person or group of people who will be charged with making progress on \_\_\_\_\_ \* becoming a center for health and healing.
10. We recognize the attention God requires of us in caring for the poor and the vulnerable, and furthermore recognize the health of our congregation and our community is based on how well we care for our poor and vulnerable.

11. Our advancement in health and healing ministries will be guided by prayer. Prayer is our two way communication with our Lord where we speak to him, and he speaks to us. Day by day, this pursuit will be lead through prayer.
12. We recognize that becoming a center for health and healing will take time. We believe God will bless our pursuit of this most holy endeavor and recognize there is joy in the journey.

\_\_\_\_\_ / /  
Pastor Name and Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ / /  
Chair of Church Council Name and Signature

**\*Insert name of your church**