

MLC VISION STATEMENT

“Our vision is to cultivate **leaders of noble character** who are **passionate disciples of Jesus Christ** who **minister to others** for the glory of our risen **LORD.**”

VISION VALUES – These are MLC’s vision values that were developed in the process of writing the above Vision Statement. The key words from the statement are explained below.

Our – This vision is collective. It implies ownership, establishes a boundary, and guides us in the same direction. It builds community by encircling everyone who is involved. It defines who we are.

Vision – Vision is forward looking. It directs our decisions, motivates our actions, and drives us. It is where we place our values to achieve the ideal end result.

Cultivate – Cultivating is a continual process of making conditions ready for God to cause our kids to grow. Once the seed is planted, cultivation prepares, nurtures, weeds and softens. Though we each play a part, we all work together to accomplish this.

I Corinthians 3:6-9

“I planted, Apollos watered, **but God was causing the growth.** So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. Now he who plants and he who waters **are one:** but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are God’s fellow workers; **you are God’s field,** God’s building.”

Leaders of noble character are servants “working heartily as for the Lord rather than for men.”

Leaders – We believe that everyone is a leader in the place that God has planted them. Leadership skills can be taught. There are various types of leaders and Jesus Christ is our example. We seek to teach each student how to be a leader in any area or size of influence that God has given. Every leader needs to learn how to follow and to be part of a team even if it is in their own home. Leadership is not just following the rules or outward behavior; instead, it is an inner maturity. This means

that students are not leading out of pride or selfish ambition but as servants of Jesus. We note that leadership is a combination of advanced moral reasoning, deepened emotional attachment and involvement in faith building activities. We also note that mature leadership is highly relational. It moves beyond small, self-centered interests to encompass the needs of humanity, and it is motivated by a responsive love to God. This is a lifelong journey.

It is this vision of leadership and these attitudes with which we seek to equip our students because we want them to become principled adults whose lives are lived in relationship with God, who experience inner serenity, and who bless their fellow humans because they are committed to love and justice.

Noble – We want to train and encourage people who notice the needs of others and seek to use their gifts to meet those needs. Christ is our example of nobility. He chose to use his abilities to meet the needs of others. He met our greatest need at the cross. Therefore, we can show honor and thanks to God by using our gifts to help others.

Passionate disciples are imitators of Christ's heart and mind.

Passionate – expressing intense feeling, flowing out of love from the heart that manifests as a strong devotion to our God given cause.

Disciples – actively seek, learn and reflect the heart of Christ. Disciples are willing to enter into genuine relationships to learn from others and to teach others Christ's likeness.

Minister – We are a ministry!

We desire for our students to seek to care for and to serve others in the name of Jesus Christ, for God's glory, in the power of the Holy Spirit so that God might use them to meet the spiritual, physical, intellectual, and emotional needs of people.

Risen – Jesus Christ rose from the dead. Our LORD is distinguished by this fact. Jesus said, "Because I live, you shall also live." We know our Redeemer lives.