

STATEMENT OF FAITH

- We believe that the Bible is God's message to every human being throughout time, and in the original writings is exactly as He gave it, word for word without any error whatsoever (II Timothy 3:16).
- We believe that there is only one God, yet He exists in three persons; the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that these three are eternal and equal. We also believe that God is the sole creator of the universe (Matthew 28:19, II Corinthians 13:14).
- We believe that Jesus Christ was fully God and fully man, that He was born of a virgin and that He lived a sinless life, in which He taught and did mighty works and signs exactly as revealed in the four gospels. We believe that He died for our sins, which demonstrated His love for all people. However, He did not remain in the grave but physically arose from the dead on the third day as the Scriptures declare. Later, He ascended to heaven where He is head of the Church and intercedes for believers. From there He will come again visibly to this earth to set up His kingdom in which He will reign forever as King (Colossians 1:15-20; John 1:1-19; John 10:30-33; I Corinthians 15:3-4).
- We believe that a person becomes a true Christian by recognizing that he/she is a sinner who stands guilty before God, but by trusting in Christ receives salvation which includes forgiveness of sins, the receiving of a new nature, and the hope of eternal life. This salvation is made possible by God's grace and that it is entirely apart from good works, such as baptism and church membership (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 6:23).
- We believe that a true believer cannot forfeit his standing with God. However, sin may interrupt the joy of his fellowship with God and bring the discipline of a loving Heavenly Father (John 10:28).
- We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person, that He is God, and has all the attributes of God. We also believe that He lives in all believers and that by His ministry every Christian is connected to God's eternal family, assured of his standing with God, and is specifically and uniquely gifted for effective Christian service. We do not believe God intended any one gift for all believers [e.g. tongues], nor are the gifts a measure of spirituality. The Holy Spirit also fills and empowers the believer in response to yieldedness (John 14:16-17; 16:7-15; Ephesians 5:18).
- We believe that all genuine believers are together part of the true universal Church. The Scripture commands all believers to gather together to devote themselves to worship, prayer, teaching of the Bible, observance of baptism and communion, fellowship, acts of compassion, and outreach. Wherever God's people meet regularly there is a local expression under the watch care of elders and other supportive leadership. Its members are to work together in love and unity (Acts 2:42-47).
- We believe that Christians who die depart to be with Christ immediately in heaven. But those who refuse the offer of God's gracious gift of salvation are doomed to suffer eternal separation from Him in hell (Matthew 25:46; John 14:1-6; Phil 1:21-23).
- -We believe in the spirit beings known as angels, who serve God as messengers, and Satan, the arch enemy of God, who actively influences people by deceiving and blinding them towards God, along with his demonic helpers (Ephesians 6:10-12; Revelation 12:9).
- -We believe that God has specially created the family and it is the church's privilege to nurture family life through baby dedications, Christian education, weddings, and funerals (Genesis 2:24).

