

# OUR BELIEFS

We believe in GOD... the maker and sustainer of all things who created us for relationship with Him. That relationship was broken because of SIN. Sin brought death into the world...death in our physical bodies and death in our spiritual being. Sin separated us from God and broke our relationships with others. But God sent His son JESUS to become a man, live a perfect life, and offer Himself for our sins. By repenting and trusting in Jesus we can become right with God and enter into relationship with Him again. We have been gathered into God's family, the CHURCH, and given a mission to make disciples of Jesus. We live our lives as an act of WORSHIP, seeking to love others like Jesus loves us. We celebrate that through Christ's sacrificial and substitutionary death we have been granted eternal LIFE and will spend eternity with Him.

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

### **The Bible is God's Word.**

The Bible was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs about living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without error.

2 Timothy 3:16, 1:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6;  
Proverbs 30:5

### **God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe.**

He has eternally existed as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The three are coequal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27, 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Jesus is the Son of God.**

He is coequal with the Father and Holy Spirit. Jesus lived a sinless human

life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven and will return again someday to earth to reign as King.

Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 1:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14-15; Titus 2:13

### **The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity.**

The Holy Spirit is coequal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He provides Christians with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer spiritual gifts when they are saved. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily.

Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16-17; Galatians 5:25; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13, 5:18

### **We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

We believe that the church was empowered by the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts for the work of building the Kingdom of God.

John 1:32-34; 20:22; Acts 2:1-4; 8:14-17; 19:6

### **We believe in the operation of the Gifts of the Spirit...**

As enumerated in 1 Corinthians 12:14, as manifested in the Early Church. The miraculous gifts (including speaking in tongues) produced by the Holy Spirit continue to function today just as they did when the Church was established.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 1 Peter 4:10; Ephesians 4:7-12

### **We believe in the Spirit-filled life.**

This is a life of separation from the world, and a life dedicated to God's work through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18; 2 Corinthians 6:14; 7:1

### **Salvation is God's free gift to us, but we must accept it.**

We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one

receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6, 1:2; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26;  
Romans 5:1, 10:9-10

### **Baptism is symbolic of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.**

Once we have accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior, baptism is a way for us to publicly declare our new life in Christ. It is also a step of obedience based on God's commands and allows us to follow the example of Jesus, who submitted himself to baptism to "fulfill all righteousness."

Matthew 3:16-17, 28:18-20; Acts 2:41, 8:12

### **The Lord's Supper is a unique time of communion**

When the body of believers receives the bread and the wine in remembrance of the Lord's death at the communion table, the Lord is present.

Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25

### **Marriage is the covenant relationship between one man and one woman.**

Marriage is defined in the Bible as a covenant, a sacred bond between one man and one woman, instituted by and publicly entered into before God. This union is intended to be a lifelong, exclusive relationship that mirrors the relationship between Christ and the Church. Same-sex relationships and marriages are seen as contrary to biblical teachings, as they do not align with the scriptural definition of marriage and are considered sinful.

Genesis 2:24; Leviticus 18:22; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1:26,27;  
Ephesians 5:22,25,31,32; 1 Peter 3:1-7

### **Gender Identity**

The Bible teaches that God created humanity in His image, making them male and female. This binary design is seen as a reflection of God's intentional and purposeful creation. The Bible emphasizes living in alignment with one's biological sex as part of honoring God's design. Any deviation from this design, such as transgenderism, is inconsistent with biblical teachings and the natural order established by God.

Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 22:5

### **God's will for provision**

It is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy, and successful in all areas of life. Because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on Earth, but that fact should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to better serve others.

### **Spiritual**

John 3:3-11; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10

### **Mental and Emotional**

2 Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3

### **Physical**

Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24

### **Financial**

Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10;  
Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Philippians 4:19

## **In addition to these basic fundamentals we also hold that:**

The church of Jesus Christ is the last instrument that God is using to extend His kingdom prior to the second coming of Christ.

Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 1:20-23; 3:10

The local church is autonomous, that is, it is self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating in its mature state.

Acts 2; 13:1-4

The biblical form of church government is a plurality of elders with a Lead Pastor who all qualify on the basis of 1 Timothy 3 in spiritual life, character, domestic life and ruling ability.

Every believer in Christ must be subject to God's authority in a specific local church for spiritual protection and long term fruitfulness.

Hebrews 13:17

The theological framework for understanding all of God's dealings with mankind is to be found in the divine covenants revealed in Scripture.

We believe in the public gathering of the Church together for prayer, worship, teaching and preaching of the Bible and the administering of the sacraments of the church.

Acts 2; 1 Corinthians 11; Hebrews 10:25

## **In addition to essential beliefs, we have liberty in non-essential beliefs.**

Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters... Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls... So then each of us will give an account of himself to God... So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God.

Romans 14:1,4,12,22

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:2