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## STATEMENT OF FAITH AND BELIEFS

- A. *The Bible.* We believe the Bible to be inspired and the only infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God and the sole basis for faith and practice (2 Timothy 3:15; 2 Peter 1:21).
- B. *The Trinity.* We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:1; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30).
- C. *Jesus Christ.* We believe in the deity of Christ (John 1:1; John 10:30), the humanity of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 2:17), His virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:35), His sinless life (Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 7:26), His miracles (John 2:11), His vicarious and atoning death (1 Corinthians 15:3; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 2:9), His resurrection (John 20:1-31; 1 Corinthians 15:4), His Ascension to the right hand of the Father (Mark 16:19), and His personal return in power and glory (Acts 1:11; Revelation 19:11).
- D. *Salvation.* We believe (1) in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature, (2) that people are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Christ, and (3) that only by God's grace and through faith in Jesus Christ alone are we saved (John 3:16-19; John 5:24; Romans 3:23; Romans 5:8-9; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:5).
- E. *Resurrection.* We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: those that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and those that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:28-29).
- F. *Unity of Believers.* We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Galatians 3:26-28).
- G. *The Holy Spirit.* We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (Romans 8:13-14; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Ephesians 4:30; Ephesians 5:18).
- H. *Sex and Marriage.*
  - (1) We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and

nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Consequently, the rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

(2) We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning, which is marriage sanctioned by God that joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Genesis 2:18-24, Ephesians 5:31). We believe God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other and that God has commanded there is to be no intimate sexual activity engaged in outside of a marriage relationship between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, or any attempt to change one's sex, or disagreement with one's biological sex, is sinful and offensive to God (1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 1 Corinthians 7:1-5; Ephesians 5:3; Hebrews 13:4).

- I. *Availability of Redemption.* We believe God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin and seek His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:20-22).
- J. *Sanctity of Life.* We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image (Psalm 139). Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life.

The Church's Statement of Faith and Beliefs does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, being the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of the Church's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Senior Pastor is the Church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.