

Our Mission:

“... moving people closer to God”

This is derived from the “Great Commission”, Matthew 28:19-20, and the “Great Commandment”, Luke 10:27.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe that:

The sixty-six canonical books of the Bible, as originally written, are inspired of God, hence free from error. They constitute the only infallible guide in faith and practice. (II Timothy 3:16, I Thess. 2:3, II Peter 1:21)

There is one God, the Creator and Preserver of all things, infinite in being and perfection. He exists eternally in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who are of one substance and equal in power and glory. (Philippians 2:6; *Father*: John 14:28; John 16:28; John 1:14; *Son*: John 1:1; John 1:18; John 1:14; John 15:26; *Holy Spirit*: John 14:26)

Man, created in the image of God, through disobedience fell from his sinless state at the suggestion of Satan. This fall plunged man into a state of sin and spiritual death, and brought upon the entire race the sentence of eternal death. From this condition man can be saved only by the grace of God, through faith, on the basis of the work of Christ, and by the agency of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 5:12; Romans 3:23; Romans 3:10; I John 3:8)

Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the law, and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God. Man's first step toward salvation is Godly sorrow that works toward repentance. The new birth is necessary to all men, and when fulfilled produces eternal life. (Ephesians 2:8; II Cor. 7:10; I John 5:12; John 3:3-5)

WATER BAPTISM. Baptism in water is by immersion, and is a direct commandment of our Lord, and is for believers only. The ordinance is a symbol of the Christian's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. (Matt. 28:19; Romans 6:4; Col. 2:12; Acts 8:36-39)

The following recommendation regarding the Water Baptismal formula is adopted, to-wit: "On the confession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and by His authority, I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen."

The eternally pre-existent Son became incarnate without human father, by being born of the Virgin Mary. Thus in the Lord Jesus Christ, divine and human natures were united in one Person, both natures being whole, perfect and distinct. To effect salvation, He lived a sinless life and died on the cross as the sinner's substitute, shedding His blood for the remission of sins. On the third day He rose from the dead in the body which had been laid in the tomb. He ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He performs the ministry of intercession. He shall come again, personally and visibly, to complete His redemptive work and to consummate the eternal plan of God.

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Triune God. He applies to man the work of Christ. By justification and adoption man is given a right standing before God; by regeneration, sanctification and glorification man's nature is renewed. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are made available to those who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit is available to empower believers for witness, service and ministry. The believer, having turned to God in penitent faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, is accountable to God for living a life separated from sin and characterized by the fruit of the Spirit. It is his responsibility to contribute by word and deed to the universal spread of the Gospel. (Matt. 3:11; John 14:16-17; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38-39; Acts 19:1-7; Heb. 12:14; I Thess. 5:23; II Peter 3:18; II Cor. 3:18; Philippians 3:12-14; I Cor. 1:30)

At the end of the age the bodies of the dead shall be raised. The righteous shall enter into full possession of eternal bliss in the presence of God, and the wicked shall be condemned to eternal death. (Acts 1:11; I Thess. 4:16-17; Hebrews 9:27; Rev. 19:20; Rev. 20:6,15)

THE APOSTLES' CREED¹

*We believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;*

*And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
and on the third day He rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God,
the Father Almighty;
from whence He will come again to judge the quick and the dead.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting.*

AMEN

*We believe that God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son
and that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but will have everlasting life.*

JOHN 3:16

This is where we plant our feet; it forms the very foundation of The Church Next Door.

It is what we believe as individuals and as a group and it will never change.

¹ This connects us as believers with the "Church" and Christian history. Signs of these "core teachings" are seen as early as the New Testament book of Hebrews, which speaks of a need for Christians to grasp and embrace the basic concepts of faith so that they can move into deeper parts of their Christian faith, while at the same time realizing how essential it is that they never depart from a core belief in the real and living Christ ([Hebrews 5:1–6:12](#)). The Apostles' Creed represents a set of uncompromisable core beliefs for Christians. As such, the core tradition of it is also found in the Nicene Creed. The Apostles' Creed, like all creeds, functions like a filter for orthodoxy; it indicates what is and what is not "Christian." It is a public profession of belief in historic Christianity.