

# **WORTHINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **CONSTITUTION ARTICLES OF FAITH**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Following six weeks of evangelistic services, the first morning worship of this Baptist Church was held in the town hall of Worthington, PA on October 12, 1930. James King was the preacher.

On November 7, 1930, the council for recognition of the First Orthodox Baptist Church of Worthington, Pennsylvania was called.

On July 7, 1932, it was decided to build a church. The present building which was at McVile, Pennsylvania was torn down, and rebuilt at its present location.

On June 4, 1933, our church was dedicated to the service of the Lord. Reverend James King was called as the first pastor on November 28, 1932.

Reverend A.F. Colwell was called in August, 1934.

Reverend Lawrence Bailey was called as Pastor on April 26, 1939.

Reverend Oliver P. Strong was called as Pastor on February 23, 1944.

Pastor Ralph Burns was called as Pastor on July 5, 1950.

Pastor Howard Addleman was called as Pastor on January 30, 1957.

Pastor Donald Lumeree was called as Pastor on August 2, 1961.

Pastor Walter Pifer was called as Pastor on November 9, 1980.

Pastor Louis Friend III was called as Pastor on July 28, 1996.

Pastor Joseph T. Simpson was called as Pastor on Monday, August 2, 1999. His ministry began on August 22, 1999.

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# **PREAMBLE**

Let all things be done decently and in order ( I Corinthians 14:40). That we may more readily help one another in our Christian service as members of this church, we adopt by revision the following as our Confession of Faith, Covenant, Constitution and Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE 1                      NAME AND OBJECTIVES**

### **SECTION 1                      NAME**

Officially incorporated May 3, 1971, this church shall be known as “The Worthington Baptist Church” of Worthington, Pennsylvania.

### **SECTION 2                      OBJECTIVES**

This church, believing the Bible is the inspired Word of God and acknowledging its adherence to all the teachings therein, declares its objectives to be:

- A. To provide a place to maintain regular devotional and public worship services.
- B. To earnestly proclaim the Gospel message of salvation by grace through faith in Christ’s finished work and to encourage personal acceptance of Him.
- C. To participate by prayers, gifts, and Christian service in the effort to preach the Gospel to all the world.
- D. To systematically teach the Bible in Sunday School classes and worship services for the purpose of preparing Christians for a faithful walk in Christ.
- E. To build up those who have been born again in the most Holy Faith.

### **SECTION 3                      ASSOCIATIONS**

1. A New Testament Church cannot join anything outside itself, but only affiliate therewith on the grounds of fellowship.

## **ARTICLE 2**

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Whereas: The scripture distinctly teaches that in the last days the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers having itching ears; and shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

### **II Timothy 4**

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

We resolve, by the grace of God to maintain the work of evangelism as well as the teaching of the inspired Word of God for the perfecting of the saints, and for the edifying of the body of Christ. Moreover, we resolve to declare our adherence to the following doctrinal truths upon which this church is founded and we believe should be perpetuated.

## **SECTION 1**

## **THE SCRIPTURES**

We believe that the Holy Bible as originally written was verbally inspired of the Holy Spirit and the product of Spirit controlled men. Believing in the infallible authority of the scriptures, we accept the whole Bible, both Old Testament and New Testament as the Word of God, by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

### **Second Timothy 3**

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

### **Second Peter 1**

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

## **SECTION 2**

## **THE TRUE GOD**

We believe there is one, and only one living and true God; that the Scriptures reveal God as eternally existing and manifesting Himself in three persons: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption:

### **Exodus 20**

2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

### **First Corinthians 8**

6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

### **Matthew 3**

16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

### **John 19**

30 And said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands.

### **Second Corinthians 13**

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

### **First John 5**

7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

### **Revelation 4**

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

## **SECTION 3**

## **JESUS CHRIST**

**A.** Jesus' Deity and Virgin Birth: We believe that Jesus Christ is absolute Deity, being co-equal with God; begotten of the Holy Spirit in a unique miraculous manner, born of the virgin Mary, as no other man was ever born or could be born of woman, and that He is both True God and True Man:

### **John 1**

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

### **Philippians 2**

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

### **Genesis 3**

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

### **John 1**

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

### **Isaiah 7**

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

### **Matthew 1**

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

## **Luke 1**

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

**B.** Jesus' Atonement for Sin: We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement, through the shedding of His blood for our sin; that His atonement was not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was the voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the just for the unjust; Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His body on the tree; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, He is in every way qualified to be the only, compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

## **Ephesians 2**

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

## **John 3**

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

## **Matthew 18**

11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

## **Romans 3**

25 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

## **Second Corinthians 5**

21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

## **John 10**

18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

## **First Peter 2**

24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

### **First Peter 3**

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

### **First Corinthians 15**

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

### **Isaiah 53**

12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

### **Acts 15**

11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

### **Philippians 2**

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

### **Isaiah 53**

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

### **Isaiah 53**

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

### **Philippians 2**

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

### **Galatians 1**



4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

### **Hebrews 2**

14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

### **Hebrews 9**

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

### **Hebrews 7**

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

### **Hebrews 12**

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

### **First John 2**

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

C. Jesus' Bodily Resurrection: We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Matthew 28**

6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

**Luke 24**

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

**John 20**

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

**First Corinthians 15**

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

**D.** Jesus' Ascension and Intercession: We believe that the risen glorified Lord ascended into Heaven; that His present ministry is as our great High Priest and Advocate at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Acts 1**

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

**Luke 24**

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

**Mark 16**

19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

**Hebrews 2**

17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

**Hebrews 3**

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

### **Hebrews 5**

9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedeck.

### **Hebrews 12**

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **First Timothy 2**

5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

### **First John 2**

1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

### **Revelation 3**

21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

**E.** Jesus' Second Coming: We believe in the personal, pretribulational, premillennial and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; that the Scriptures teach it to be in two phases. First, the rapture of the church, the body of Christ, into the glorious presence of the Son of God. Second, the revelation of Jesus Christ, as He returns to reign upon the earth on the throne of His father, David.

### **1 Corinthians 15**

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

### **1 Thessalonians 1**

10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

### **1 Thessalonians 4**

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

## **Titus 2**

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

F. Jesus' Millennial Reign: We believe that Jesus Christ will reign, in righteousness, upon the earth for a thousand years.

## **First Corinthians 15**

25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

## **Isaiah 32**

1 Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment

## **Psalms 72**

8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

## **Revelation 20**

1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

## **Isaiah 11**

4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

## **SECTION 4**

## **THE HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person; equal with God the Father and God the Son, and of the same nature; that He was active in creation; that in relation to the unbelieving world, He restrains the evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of righteousness and of judgment; that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent of the new birth; that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies and helps the believer. We are opposed to the Charismatic movement and any aspect of its ministry.

#### **John 14**

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

#### **Luke 1**

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

#### **Genesis 1**

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

#### **John 15**

16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.

#### **Acts 5**

30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.

31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

#### **Mark 1**

8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

#### **John 1**

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

### **John 16**

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

### **John 14**

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

### **First Peter 1**

2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

### **Matthew 28**

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

### **Second Thessalonians 2**

7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

### **John 3**

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

### **Acts 11**

16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

### **Romans 8**

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

### **Romans 8**

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.  
27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

### **Hebrews 9**

14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

### **John 16**

8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:  
9 Of sin, because they believe not on me;  
10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;  
11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

### **Ephesians 1**

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,  
14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

### **Luke 24**

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

### **Second Thessalonians 2**

13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

## **SECTION 5                      THE DEVIL OR SATAN**

We believe in the personality of Satan; that he is the unholy "god of this age"; the author of all powers of darkness; and is destined to the judgment of an eternal justice in the Lake of Fire.

### **Matthew 4**

1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

### **Mark 1**

13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

### **Second Corinthians 4**

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

### **Ephesians 2**

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

### **Revelation 20**

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

## **SECTION 6 THE CREATION**

We believe and accept the Genesis account of creation and believe that Adam and Eve came by the direct creation of God and not by evolution; that mankind was “created in God’s own image”.

### **Genesis chapters 1 & 2**

#### **Genesis 1**

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

#### **Genesis 2**

7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.



### **Colossians 1**

16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

### **John 1**

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

## **SECTION 7 THE FALL OF MAN**

We believe that mankind was created in innocence, under the law of His Maker, but by voluntary transgression, fell from his sinless and happy state in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not only by constraint, but of choice; and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

### **Genesis 3**

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

### **Romans 3**

10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. 13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: 14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: 15 Their feet are swift to shed blood: 16 Destruction and misery are in their ways: 17 And the way of peace have they not known: 18 There is no fear of God before their eyes. 19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may

become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. 29 Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

### **Romans 5**

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

### **Romans 5**

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

### **Ephesians 2**

1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

### **Galatians 3**

22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

## **SECTION 8**

## **LIFE**

### **A. THE PHYSICAL BIRTH**

We believe that life begins at conception, created in the image of God and that God is the giver of life. Therefore, we hold to the sanctity of life and believe that a child aborted in any stage of a normal pregnancy is to be considered as the taking of an innocent human life.

#### **Genesis 1**

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

#### **Genesis 2**

7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

#### **Genesis 17**

15 And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. 16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her. 17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? 18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee! 19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

#### **Psalms 127**

3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

#### **Proverbs 6**

16 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

#### **Jeremiah 1**

4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

## **B. THE NEW BIRTH**

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners “must be born again”, that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God; that the new birth is a new creation in Jesus Christ; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth, the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new birth is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, but wholly and solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

### **John 1**

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

### **John 3**

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

### **Acts 16**

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

### **Romans 6**

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Second Corinthians 5**

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

### **Galatians 3**

26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

### **Galatians 5**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

### **Ephesians 2**

1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

### **Ephesians 5**

9 For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;

### **Colossians 2**

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

### **First John 5**

1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

### **Second Peter 1**

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

## **SECTION 9 JUSTIFICATION**

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification:

**A.** That Justification included pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of His righteousness

**B.** That it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely by grace through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed unto us.

### **Isaiah 53**

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

### **Zechariah 13**

1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

### **Acts 13**

39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

### **Romans 1**

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

### **Romans 4**

1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?

2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,

7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

### **Romans 5**

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

### **Romans 8**

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

### **Galatians 3**

11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

### **Titus 3**

5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;  
6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;  
7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

### **Hebrews 10**

38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

## **SECTION 10                    SANCTIFICATION**

We believe that Sanctification (to be “set apart”) is the process by which God makes us partakers of His holiness; that it is a progressive work that is begun in regeneration and continues in our hearts by the work of the Holy Spirit, in connection with Bible reading, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer, and completed at the return of Christ for His own.

### **First Corinthians 6**

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

### **First Thessalonians 3**

13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

### **Second Peter 3**

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

### **First John 3**

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

## **SECTION 11                    THE SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER**

**A.** We believe that all who are truly born again are kept eternally by God the Father for Jesus Christ.

**B.** We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word; which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty, as an occasion to the flesh.

### **John 6**

37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

### **John 10**

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one.

### **First Corinthians 1**

4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Romans 8**

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Philippians 1**

6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

### **First Peter 1**



5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

### **Jude 1**

Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

### **Romans 6**

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

### **Galatians 5**

13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

### **Titus 2**

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,  
12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;  
13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. 15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

## **SECTION 12      GODLINESS**

We believe that all the saved shall live in a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Saviour and Lord; that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations is commanded by God. We believe that marriage is between one man and one woman. The teaching of the Word of God opposes those that live together or fornicate outside the bonds of marriage including the gay and lesbian alternate lifestyles. We believe that intoxication by drink or drugs for recreational purposes is not exemplary of the Christian walk and must be biblically viewed as a sinful practice.

### **Proverbs 20**

1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

## **Romans 1**

24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. 26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; 29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: 32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

## **First Corinthians 6**

9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

## **Galatians 5**

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

## **Ephesians 5**

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

## **Second Timothy 3**

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those

that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

### **Titus 2**

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

### **Hebrews 13**

4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

### **First Peter 1**

15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

### **Romans 12**

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.  
2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

### **Romans 14**

13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

### **Second Corinthians 6**

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

### **Second Corinthians 7**

1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

### **Second Timothy 3**

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

### **First John 2**

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

### **Second John 1**

9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

## **SECTION 13 THE TWO NATURES**

We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, spiritual and carnal, with provision for victory of the new nature over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit; and, that all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural.

### **Romans 6**

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

### **Romans 8**

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

### **Galatians 5**

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

### **Ephesians 4**

22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

### **Colossians 3**

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

### **First Peter 1**

14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

### **1 John 1**

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

### **First John 3**

5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. 6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. 7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

## **SECTION 14**

## **THE LOCAL CHURCH**

We believe that a local church is a voluntary association of members of the body of Christ, of baptized believers, equal in rank and privilege, subject to the Word of God and independent of any external ecclesiastical control whatsoever; associated by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the two ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws, and exercising the rights and privileges invested in them by His Word, that the true mission of the church is the faithful witnessing of Christ to all men as we have opportunity. We hold that the local church has absolute right over any hierarchy of individuals or organizations, and that the one and only head is Christ, through the Holy Spirit. On all matters of membership; of policy; of government; of discipline; of benevolence: the will of the local church as expressed in its constitution, covenant and bylaws is final.

### **Acts 1**

15. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

## **Acts 2**

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

## **Acts 20**

17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

## **Acts 15**

13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me: 14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

## **First Corinthians 11**

2 Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.

## **Ephesians 1**

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

## **Ephesians 5**

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

## **Colossians 1**

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

### **Romans 16**

5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ.

### **1 Corinthians 16**

19. The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

### **Colossians 4**

15. Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

### **Philemon 1**

2. And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in thy house:

## **SECTION 15 THE ORDINANCES**

**A.** We believe God's Word commands every believer (and only believers) to be baptized; that Christian and Bible baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior. Neither Baptism nor the Lord's Supper has any sacramental virtues (saving grace).

### **Matthew 3**

16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

### **John 3**

23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.

### **Acts 8**

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

### **Romans 6**

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

### **1 Peter 3**

21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

**B.** We believe that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration of His death until He comes, and thus should be observed as Christ said "in remembrance of His broken body and shed blood for us;" that the Supper should be preceded always by solemn self-examination.

### **First Corinthians 11**

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

## **SECTION 16**

## **EVANGELIZATION**

**A.** It shall be the policy of the church to support only missions engaged principally in evangelization. They shall be known to be in hearty agreement with our Confession of Faith, both in doctrine and practice, and be Baptist in name as well as in policy. This mission policy



concerning the Baptist name shall not apply to the Jewish missions. The giving shall be designated in the annual missionary budget.

**B.** We believe that it is the solemn obligation of every believer to be a personal soul-winner, and to do the utmost to carry out the Saviour's command to give the Gospel to the whole world.

**C.** It shall be the policy of this church to support only those schools which are known to be in hearty agreement with our Confession of Faith, both in doctrine and practice, and to be Baptist in name as well as in policy.

### **Mark 16**

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

### **Acts 1**

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

### **Ephesians 4**

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

## **SECTION 17 THE RESURRECTION OF THE JUST AND UNJUST**

### **A. The First Resurrection**

We believe that the just through faith are justified in the name of Jesus Christ, and sanctified through the Spirit of God, are truly righteous; that the just church age believers shall be resurrected at the rapture of the Church to the everlasting grace and fellowship of the Lord; that they shall reign with Him for a thousand years and shall sit in judgment with Christ; that their works shall be rewarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

### **Malachi 3**

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

### **Romans 5**

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

### **Romans 6**

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

#### **First Thessalonians 4**

13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

#### **First Corinthians 15**

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

#### **First Corinthians 3**

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

#### **Second Corinthians 5**

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

### **B. The Second Resurrection**

We believe that the unjust shall be resurrected to everlasting punishment of the lost at the end of Satan's "little season"; that their works shall be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment.

### **Matthew 7**

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

### **Mark 9**

45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hellfire:

48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

### **Luke 16**

25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

### **John 5**

28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

### **John 8**

21 Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.

### **Revelation 20**

3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.



### **Matthew 22**

21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

### **Matthew 23**

10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.

### **Acts 4**

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

### **Acts 5**

20 Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.

### **Acts 23**

5 Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people.

### **Romans 13**

1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

### **Philippians 2**

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Titus 3**

1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

**First Peter 2**

13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

**SECTION 19                      TRANSLATIONS OF THE BIBLE**

The Worthington Baptist Church of Worthington, Pennsylvania holds to the King James Version as our only text for preaching and teaching and is opposed to any version of the Bible which leans to the trend of modernism in its translation.

**SECTION 20                      STATEMENT OF FAITH ENDORSEMENT**

All candidates for membership and employees must be in agreement with the church's Constitution (Articles of Faith, Covenant and By-laws) and sign a statement of agreement form (Appendix 1). The church requires the written endorsement each year at the annual business meeting or within thirty days thereafter, of all officers:

Pastor, Deacon, Church Clerk, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Missionary Treasurer, all officers and teachers of the Sunday School, and all officers of all organizations of the church.

