STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR BELIEFS

1. In essential beliefs, we have UNITY.

2. In non-essential beliefs, we have LIBERTY.

3. In all our beliefs, we show LOVE.

THE ESSENTIALS WE BELIEVE

A more thorough Statement of Faith is found in Article III of our Bylaws on page 19.

1. GOD is the Creator and Ruler of the universe who exists eternally as a Trinity of three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
   Genesis 1:1,26-27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2-3
   Corinthians 13:14

2. THE FATHER is the first person of the Trinity who controls all things according to His purpose and for His glory.
   Isaiah 64:8; Matthew 6:9; 7:11; John 1:12; Romans 8:15-16

3. JESUS CHRIST is the fully divine and fully human Son of God who lived a sinless life and offered Himself as the sacrifice for our sins by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days, ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again to gather all who believe in Him.
   Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:22-23; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 1:3-4; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 Timothy 6:14-15; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 4:14-15

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT is present in every Christian convicting of sin, convincing of truth and conforming us to Christ's image. After regenerating a person, He provides spiritual gifts, power for living and guidance in doing right.
   2 Corinthians 3:17; John 14:16-17; 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12; 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 1:13; 5:18

5. THE BIBLE is God's Word to us, written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the basis for what we believe and the way we live.
   2 Timothy 1:13; 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 126:6; 119:105,160; Proverbs 30:5
   EXAMPLE: Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in an exclusive relationship; it is the only relationship appropriate for sexual intimacy.
   Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1:18-28; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; 7:1-3

6. HUMAN BEINGS are created in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character, but are born with the fallen sin nature of Adam. Sin separates people from God and one another.
   Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2

7. SALVATION is God's free gift to us which we receive by trusting in Jesus Christ for forgiveness. We are born again by faith alone, not by any good works that we do.
   Romans 5:1; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26

8. ETERNAL SECURITY is sealed by faith in Jesus Christ who died for all of our sins—past, present and future. Once we have been born again we cannot lose our salvation. We did not earn our salvation through good works and we cannot lose it through bad ones.
   John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25, 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5

9. ETERNITY exists for all people who will either live forever in God's presence in heaven or forever separated from Him in hell.
   John 3:16, 14:17; Romans 6:23; 8:17-18; 1 Corinthians 2:7-9; Revelation 20:15