

Statement of Faith and Membership Covenant



WAYSIDE
CHAPEL

Growing in grace



Statement of Faith

Wayside Chapel recognizes the following Articles of Faith as a declaration of its views on Christian Doctrine:

1. The Old and New Testament Scriptures were written by men, divinely inspired, and are the only sufficient and perfect rule of faith and practice (II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21; Matt. 5:19, 24-35; Luke 24:44; John 5:39; John 14:15, 21-26; John 17:17).
2. There is one God, and only one, who is self-existent, eternal, and infinite in every excellence, and who has revealed Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the same in essence, though distinct in personality (Isa. 45:21, 22; Jer. 10:10; Deut. 6:4; Deut. 32:4; John 1:10-13; I Tim. 3:16; Rev. 1:8; John 14:26; John 15:26; I Cor. 3:16; I Cor. 12:11; Matt. 28:19; John 10:30; Gen. 1:1-26).
3. We believe in the Deity of Christ (John 1:1, 14; Col. 2:9), His Virgin Birth (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:34, 35), His Shed Blood for Atonement (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14), His Bodily Resurrection (Luke 24:36-43), Ascension (Acts 1:11), Rapture (His imminent return for believers) (I Thess. 4:14-18), and His personal return to establish His Kingdom on Earth (Acts 1:6,7; Rev. 20:1-6).
4. The Holy Spirit is a Person whose ministry is to reprove the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, (John 16:8); to be a Comforter to the believer, (John 16:7); He indwells the believer (Rom. 8:9); He instructs the believer and glorifies Christ (John 16:13-15).
5. We believe that all men are by nature and choice sinful and lost and have within themselves no possible means of salvation (Eph. 2:1-3; Rom. 3:10-19, 23).
6. We believe in salvation by grace through faith, that salvation is the free gift of God, not by any virtue of works of men, but received only by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ: that all true believers possess the gift of eternal life, a perfect righteousness, worship in the family of God, and the divine guarantee that they shall never perish (Eph. 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5; Rom. 4:5; John 3:16-18; John 5:24; John 10:27-29; I John 5:12, 13; John 1:12; Rom. 8:14-17).
7. We believe that every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ should live soberly, righteously, godly in this present world (Titus 2:11-14).
8. We believe that Satan is a person and that Hell is a place of eternal conscious punishment of all unsaved (Job 1:6, 7; Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:14, 15; John 8:44; II Thess. 1:8, 9).
9. We believe that Wayside Chapel is an organized body of believers practicing scriptural ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and actively engaged in fulfilling the Great Commission (Acts 2:41, 42, 47; Matt. 28:19, 20).
10. We believe that baptism is a scriptural ordinance requiring immersion (Acts 8:38, 39) of believers only (Acts 2:41) as a sign that one has passed from death unto life (Rom. 6:3-5; Acts 10:44-48).
11. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a scriptural ordinance of the Church to be partaken of by obedient Christians (I Cor. 11:23-29).



12. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of life and the lost unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:28, 29; I Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 20:11-15).
13. The local church is a body of believers associated together for work, worship, and fellowship. It is independent and autonomous and is free from all ecclesiastical or political interference.
14. We accept the Genesis account of Creation and believe that man came by direct creation of God (Gen. 1:1, 27).
15. We believe the gift of speaking in tongues was a sign for the apostolic period only. We also believe it was never a common or necessary sign of the baptism, receiving, or filling of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 13:8; I Cor. 12:12-13).
16. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity should be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, pedophilia, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe throughout the whole of Scripture, heterosexuality is both assumed and affirmed as God's order of creation (Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5-29; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; I Cor. 5:1; I Cor. 6:9; I Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4). *(Adopted 1997)*

Membership Covenant

All persons affiliated as members shall be expected to subscribe to and abide by the following Covenant:

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, and on the profession of our faith we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry and expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feelings and courtesy in speech, to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior, to secure it without delay. We moreover engage, that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and principles of God's word.