## **Proposed Statement of Faith**

- 1. We believe in the verbal and plenary inspiration of the original manuscripts that comprise the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. These alone constitute the inerrant Word of God. As such, the Bible is the only authority for belief, life, and ministry.
- 2. We believe in the trinity of the Godhead. There is only one God who exists eternally in one divine nature with three separate and distinct Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They work in unity, harmony and diversity, accomplishing God's divine purposes in creation and for salvation.
- 3. We believe in the deity, virgin birth, sinless humanity, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, and ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He provided the only means of salvation through His death on the cross and is the only mediator between God and mankind.
- 4. We believe in the personality and deity of the Holy Spirit, who works powerfully in the world and especially in the lives of believers. He baptizes believers into the body of Christ, indwells, seals, gifts, and empowers for service. By His indwelling, he is the down payment of our promised eternal inheritance.
- 5. We believe the biblical account of the creation of the physical universe as a literal, historical account of the direct, immediate creative acts of God in six days. Mankind was created in the image of God and retains that image after the fall.
- 6. We believe that all humanity is totally depraved and guilty before God as a result of the fall of Adam in the Garden. Humankind are sinners by nature and by choice and will face the wrath of God for eternity if they fail to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7. We believe that God saves sinners by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. God secures their salvation through the shed blood of Jesus for the remission of sins and by the regeneration of the Holy Spirit
- 8. We believe in the universal Church, comprised of all true believers in Jesus, with Jesus as the sole Head of the Church. The local church is comprised of believers with a Biblically-established authority living in community and fellowship with one another. Churches are to help make and mature disciples of all nations.
- 9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances given by the Lord Jesus for the blessing of His church and are beneficial for sanctification but are not regenerative in any way.
- 10. We believe in the existence of angels, created spirit-beings who serve at the behest of God. Satan, a created angel, led a rebellion of other angels against God and fell. Their doom is secure for final judgment, but until that day their influence is still felt.
- 11. We believe in the personal and bodily return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead (some to eternal life and others to eternal damnation), and the eternal state of a new heaven and new earth.
- 12. We believe that God created two sexes: male and female. While both male and female are created in the image of God, they are distinct as male or female. God designed marriage to be between a male and a female who were so from birth.
- 13. We believe that all Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of all mankind according to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission; that they should conduct themselves in righteousness before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions; and that they should seek to realize for themselves and other believers the full stature of maturity in Christ.