

MapleRidge Church Statement of Faith

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, truthful in all it affirms, and is the complete and final authority in all matters of faith and conduct. II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21; Mark 13:31; John 8:31-32; John 20:31; Acts 20:32

We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious functions in the work of creation, providence, and redemption. Genesis 1:1, 26; John 1:1, 3; Matthew 28:19; John 4:24; Romans 1:19-20

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. Luke 10:21-22; Matthew 23:9; John 3:16; 6:27; Romans 1:7; I Timothy 1:1, 2; 2:5-6; I Peter 1:3; Revelation 1:6

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son who is fully God and fully man. We believe in His conception by the Holy Spirit, His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary and atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and His personal visible return to earth. Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38; John 1:1; 20:28; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 2:14-18; Romans 9:5; 8:1-4; II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 2:21-23; John 20:30-31; Matthew 20:28; Ephesians 1:4; Acts 1:11; Romans 5:6-8; 6:9-10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:28; I Timothy 3:16

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide. John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27; John 16:7-14; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Galatians 5:22-26

We believe man was created by God in His own image; that man sinned and thereby incurred physical, spiritual and eternal death, which is separation from God. As a consequence, all human beings are born with a sinful nature and are sinners by choice and therefore under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit and become a new creation. They are delivered from condemnation and receive eternal life. Genesis 1:26; 5:2; Genesis 3; Genesis 2:17; 3:19; Ecclesiastes 2:11; John 3:14-15; 5:24; 8:12; 10:27-28; Romans 9:22; II Thessalonians 1:9; Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:14-15; Psalm 51:7; Jeremiah 17:9; James 1:14; Romans 3:19; 5:19; Proverbs 28:13; I John 1:9; John 3:16; John 1:13; II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1

We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a genuine profession of faith, and associated with one another for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has gifted and is equipping the members of the local church for the primary task of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world. Ephesians 2:19-22; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:19-21; Acts 2:42; Hebrews 10:23-25; Matthew 28:18-20.

We believe Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others and their conduct should be blameless before the world. They should be faithful stewards of what God has given them, and they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. I Corinthians 10:31; Romans 12:1-3; Hebrews 12:1-2; John 14:15, 23-24; I John 2:3-6; II Corinthians 9:6-9; I Corinthians 4:2; Colossians 1:9-10

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church – baptism and the Lord’s Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is by immersion of the believer in water into the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord’s Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. We believe that those who partake of the Lord’s Supper should be believers, walking in fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:3-5; I Corinthians 11:23-29

We believe that every human being has direct access to God and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith. We believe that each church is independent and must be free from interference by an ecclesiastical or political authority. Therefore, Church and State must be kept separate, each having its different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from the dictation or patronage of the other. I Timothy 2:5; Romans 14:7-9, 12

We believe that local churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another in a denominational organization. Such an organization, whether a regional or district conference, exists and functions by the will of the churches. Cooperation in a conference is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. Acts 15:36, 41; 16:5; I Corinthians 16:1; Galatians 1:1-3; Revelation 1:4, 10, 11.

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal joy of the righteous and the endless suffering of the wicked. Matthew 16:27; Mark 14:62; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; Philippians 3:20; I Thessalonians 4:15; II Timothy 4:1; Titus 2:13; I Corinthians 4:5; I Corinthians 15; II Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15