

What We Believe

We trust you will take time to look at our statement of faith. In a day in which churches are getting softer and softer in their doctrinal beliefs, we are still holding to the Book, The Blood, and the Blessed Hope. We make no apologies for being "old fashioned" in our doctrinal position. We do not go in for the new fads being taught in many churches. If you are looking for a church where the Word of God is honored and the God of the Word is worshipped, then check us out. If, after reading our mission statement and statement of faith, you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail us, call us, or stop by.

Mission Statement

The mission of the First Baptist Community Church of Los Gatos is to glorify God by producing life-long disciples committed to walk as Jesus walked, with a heart for God, a passion for the lost, and the skills to reproduce themselves in the lives of others.

Declaration of Faith

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INTRODUCTION

The First Baptist Community Church of Los Gatos holds the Scriptures as its authority in matters of faith and practice. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained therein is in essential accord with the belief of historical biblical Baptist churches. As a church, we believe that God's Word teaches:

INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

We believe the Holy Scriptures in all their parts, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and inerrant in the original documents, infallible and God-breathed, a perfect rule, and the final authority in faith and practice. II Timothy 3:16-17, I Corinthians 2:13, II Peter 1:16-21.

CONCERNING GOD

We believe in the Holy Trinity; that there are three distinct persons in one Godhead. The Trinity of God is His tri-personal existence as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19, Matthew 3:13-17

God the Father

We believe that there is one and only one living and true God. He is the Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth. He is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent. We believe that God is an eternal person, having no beginning and no ending, and that He is creator of all, infinite and infallible. John 1:18, John 4:24, I Corinthians 8:6, Revelation 4:11.

God the Son

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and God the Son. We believe that He is the only Savior of mankind. He is God incarnate in human flesh and that He is Very God of Very God, for whom and by whom all things were created. He is the mediator between God and men. We believe in His virgin birth, His holy sinless life, His vicarious death, and His bodily resurrection. Matthew 3:16-17, Acts 4:10-12, John 3:16, Romans 8:3, Colossians 1:16-17, I Timothy 2:5, Matthew 1:18-25, II Corinthians 5:21, Romans 3:25, I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Corinthians 15:20.

God 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 the creation. Genesis 1:1-2.

We believe that He baptizes all believers into the Body of Christ, that He indwells all believers, that He fills the obedient and is the believers' guide into the truth, and that He furnishes the gifts of the Spirit for the glorification of God and the edifying of the Body of Christ. I Corinthians 12:13, Romans 8:9, John 16:7-15, Acts 4:8, I Corinthians 12:1-11.

We believe that the sign gifts (Matthew 10:8, Mark 16:17-18,20) and the revelatory Gifts (I Corinthians 13:8-10) were temporary and are no longer given by the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 14:22.

CONCERNING ANGELS AND SATAN

Angels

We believe that angels are created spirit beings. Their purpose is to serve God and worship Him. Psalm 148:1-5, Colossians 1:16, Hebrews 1:6-7 and 14, Revelation 5:11-12.

Satan (the devil)

We believe in the personality of Satan, that he was created as an angel, rebelled against God and fell. We believe that he is the unholy god of this age, and the author of all the powers of darkness, and is destined to the judgment of eternal justice in the lake of fire. Isaiah 14:12-17, Ezekiel 28:11-19, Matthew 4:1-11, II Corinthians 4:4, Jude 6, Revelation 20:10.

CONCERNING MAN

We believe that man was created in the likeness and image of God. Through the sin of Adam, man fell from his sinless state, is born totally depraved, and is alienated from God. Genesis 1:27, Romans 5:12, Psalm 51:5, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:13.

We believe the Genesis account of creation and believe that man was directly created by God and not by evolution. Genesis 1:26-27, Matthew 19:4, John 1:3, Colossians 1:16-17.

CONCERNING SALVATION

We believe that man is justified by faith in the death of Jesus on the cross, shedding His blood for our sins, and that he is born again by grace through faith apart from works. Romans 5:1-19, Hebrews 9:22, I John 1:7, Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 2:16.

We believe that once a person is born again, he cannot lose his salvation, that he is eternally secure in the Lord Jesus Christ. John 10:27-29, Romans 8:28-29, Ephesians 4:30, Colossians 3:3-4, Jude 1.

THE CHURCH

The Universal Church

We believe in the universal Church, the Body of Christ, which is composed of all born again believers of this age and that Christ is the only head of that Church. Colossians 1:18, I Corinthians 12:13, Ephesians 1:22-23.

The Local Church

We believe that local churches are organized manifestations of the universal Church. We believe that a local church is a congregation of immersed believers associated by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ, baptism and the Lord's Table; governed by His laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its overseeing body is the Deacons, whose qualifications and duties are clearly defined in the Scriptures; and we believe 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 the absolute right of self-government, and that the one and only Head is Christ; that it is Scriptural for evangelical churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel; and that each local church is the sole judge of the measure and method of its cooperation.

On all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final.

Galatians 1:2, I Corinthians 1:2, Acts 2:41-42, Acts 20:17-28, Ephesians 1:22-23, Ephesians 4:11-12, Ephesians 5:23-24, I Timothy 3:1-13.

Baptism and Communion

We believe that Christ instituted baptism and communion to be observed by the church until He returns.

We believe that baptism by immersion is the only Scriptural mode. We believe that baptism does not save. It is an act of obedience to the command of Christ and is a testimony to the world of the believer's faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 8:36-39, Romans 6:3-5.

We believe that communion (the Lord's Supper) is a symbolic ordinance, picturing Christ's body offered for our sins and His blood shed for our redemption. It is not a saving ordinance, but it helps us remember His death, and inspires us while looking forward to His coming. It is to be observed regularly by regenerate, obedient believers. I Corinthians 11:23-28.

Separation of Church and State

We believe in the separation of Church and State. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, and that duly appointed leaders of local, state and national governments should be obeyed when the laws they seek to enforce are not in direct conflict with the Bible. Matthew 22:21, Acts 4:19-20, Romans 13:1-7.

CONCERNING LAST THINGS

The Second Coming of Christ

We believe in the second coming of Christ; that His return from Heaven will be personal, visible, and glorious, the time being unrevealed but always imminent; that when He comes He will remove from the earth His Church, then pour out the righteous judgments of God upon the unbelieving world, afterwards descend with His Church and establish His glorious and literal kingdom over all the nations for a thousand years. John 14:3, Acts 1:11, I Thessalonians 4:16-17, Revelation 20.

Resurrection

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust. Job 19:25-27, John 5:28-29, I Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 20:11-15.

Heaven

We believe that Heaven is an eternal place prepared for all born-again believers, John 14:1-6, Revelation 21-22.

Hell

We believe also that Hell is a place prepared for Satan (the devil) and his angels and that those who die in unbelief will also go there. Matthew 25:41, Luke 16:19-31, Revelation 21:8.