

SOLID ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WEST UNITY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT GOD:

God is the Creator and ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are equal and are one God. (*Genesis 1:1,26,27; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; 2 Corinthians 13:14*)

2. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT JESUS CHRIST:

Jesus Christ is the son of God, and is equal with the father. He came in human flesh, lived a sinless life and offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on the cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return to earth to reign as King of Kings, Lord of Lords. (*Matthew 1:22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Acts 1:9-11*)

3. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT:

The Holy Spirit is the third member of the Godhead, equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and the guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under His control daily. (*John 16:7-13; Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 1:13*)

4. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT THE BIBLE:

The Bible is God's Word to all men. It was written by human authors, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian belief and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error. (*2 Timothy 3:16-17, 1 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 30:5*)

5. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT MAN:

Man is made in the image of God, to be like Him in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called sin. This attitude separates man from God. (*Genesis 1:27; Psalms 139:13-16; Romans 3:23*)

6. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT ETERNITY:

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or in a union with God through forgiveness and salvation. Believers will experience everlasting life in the presence of God in Heaven. Unbelievers will be eternally separated from God and will be in Hell. (*John 3:16; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15*)

7. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT SALVATION:

The offer of salvation is a gift from God to man by grace alone. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be redeemed from the penalty of sin, reconciled with God the Father, and regenerated by the Person of the Holy Spirit. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into one's life by placing his or her faith in Christ as Savior and Lord. (*Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6*)

8. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY:

Because God gives man eternal life through Jesus Christ, the believer is secure through salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives this security. (*2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25, 1 Peter 1:3-5*)

9. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT BAPTISM:

Baptism is the outward, symbolic expression of an inward change that has occurred in the life of a believer. Baptize means to immerse, and because this is the method we see used in scripture, clearly illustrating a believer dying with Christ and being born again to new life in Christ, we teach and practice believer's baptism by immersion. We acknowledge that baptism does not cleanse from sin and is not a means to salvation, but rather is an act of obedience to Christ's command. (*Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-10; Acts 8:36-39*)

10. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER:

The Lord's Supper (Communion, or the Eucharist as it is sometimes called) was instituted by Christ on the night before His crucifixion and is to be regularly observed by believers in remembrance of Him until He returns. It is not a means either of salvation for the lost or security for the believer. It is given to help us remember the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ until He returns for His Bride. The bread symbolizes the broken body of Christ and the cup represents His blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins. (*Luke 22:17-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29*)