

STATEMENT OF FAITH

At Lighthouse Community School our students, staff, and parents agree to embrace the following Statement of Faith:

1 The Bible, including both Old and New Testaments as originally given, is the verbally and plenary inspired Word of God and is free from error in the whole and in the part, and is therefore the final authoritative guide for faith and conduct.

2 There is one God eternally existent in three distinct persons in one divine essence, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

3 God the Father has revealed Himself as the Creator and preserver of the universe, to Whom the entire creation and all creatures are subject.

4 God created Adam and Eve in His image to live in fellowship with Him. They fell into sin through the temptation of Satan and thereby lost fellowship with God. Through their disobedience the entire human race became totally depraved, that is, self-centered sinners who oppose God, and who by nature are unable to trust, fear or love Him. They are subject to the devil, and are condemned to death under the eternal wrath of God.

5 Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son, is the image of the invisible God. To accomplish our redemption, He became fully human, being conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus Christ, who is true God and true man, by His perfect obedience and substitutionary death on the cross, has purchased our redemption. He arose from the dead for our justification in the body in which He was crucified. He ascended into heaven, where He is now seated at the right hand of God, the Father, as our interceding High Priest. He will come a second time personally, bodily, and visibly to gather the believers unto Himself. He will judge the living and the dead and make an eternal separation between believers and unbelievers. His kingdom shall have no end.

6 The Holy Spirit is a divine person eternally one with the Father and with the Son. Through the Word of God He convicts people of sin, persuades them to confess their sinfulness to God and calls them to faith through the Gospel. He regenerates, sanctifies, and preserves believers in the one true faith. He comforts, guides, equips, directs, and empowers the church to fulfill the Great Commission.

7 The knowledge and benefit of Christ's redemption from sin is brought to the human race through the means of grace.. Through the Word of the Law God brings sinners to know their lost condition and to repent. Through the Word of the Gospel He brings sinners to believe in Jesus Christ, have the forgiveness of sin, become righteous in God's sight, and have eternal life. This occurs as the Holy Spirit awakens them to see their sin and invites and enables them to accept God's grace in Christ. Such individuals will then experience the power of the Gospel to live as children of God.

8 Eternal salvation is available to every living human being on earth by God's grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. This salvation consists of an instantaneous aspect and an ongoing, continual aspect.

a. Justification is God's gracious act by which He, for Christ's sake, instantaneously acquits repentant and believing sinners and credits them with Christ's righteousness. At that moment, God gives each one who believes a new and godly nature and the Holy Spirit begins the process of sanctification. There is no place for human effort in justification.

b. Sanctification is God's gracious, continual work of spiritual renewal and growth in the life of every justified person. Through the means of grace, the Holy Spirit works to reproduce the character of Christ within the lives of all believers, instructing and urging them to live out their new nature. The Holy Spirit enables believers more and more to resist the devil, to overcome the world, and to count themselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit produces spiritual fruit in and bestows spiritual gifts upon all believers. He calls, empowers and equips them to serve God in the home, in the community, and as a part of the Church Universal. The process of sanctification will be complete only when the believer reaches glory.

9 The same God who created us also instituted marriage when He said that "...a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). Marriage is the union of one man and one woman in oneness of heart, mind and body. This marriage relationship of husband and wife is intended by God to mirror God's image (Gen 1:26-27), to multiply a godly legacy (Gen 1:28), and to provide mutual joy, strength, and comfort (Gen 2:18).