



ST. MICHAEL ⊕ OUTREACH MINISTRIES AN ANABAPTIST CHURCH

ARTICLES ⊕ F A I T H

The fundamental teachings of this congregation are reflected in these core beliefs as a doctrinal foundation for the Church

(A) Gods Word

We believe in the inspiration of the Holy Bible, which is comprised of the 66 books of the Old & New Testaments as originally given. The Scriptures are without error and the sole and final authority for all matters of faith and life (*II Timothy 3:16, I Corinthians 2:13, II Peter 1:21, Hebrews 4:12*). Bibles preferred by the Church are KJV, NKJV, ASV, NASB, HCSB.

(B) God

We believe in the Eternal God, who has revealed Himself as One God existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, distinguishable but indivisible (*Matthew 28:19, II Corinthians 13:14, 1 Peter 1:2, John 14:26*).

(C) Creation

We believe in the creation, and in the fall of man as recorded in Genesis, his total spiritual depravity and inability to attain to Divine righteousness on his own (*Romans 5:12, 18*). We believe that man in his natural state is a sinner, lost, undone, without hope or salvation if without God (*Ephesians 2:1-2, Romans 3:23*).

(D) Jesus Christ

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of men, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, is God as Man manifest in the flesh (*Luke 1:26-35, John 1:14-18, Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, Phil. 2:6, Rom. 9:5, Col. 2:9*). He lived a sinless life and became a sacrifice for the sins of man (*Ephesians 1:3-5, Romans 5:1-11, Acts 4:12, 1 Peter 1:18-19*).

(E) Resurrection

We believe that our Lord arose from the dead, according to the Holy Scriptures (*Luke 24:36-43, John 20:20, Acts 2:32*), and that our Lord ascended to heaven (*Hebrew 1:3*), is seated at His Father's right hand (*Hebrew 1:13*), and serves as Head over all things to the Church (*Ephesians 1:22-23*) and is engaged on behalf of the saved as Intercessor (*Hebrew 7:25*) and Advocate (*I John 2:1*).

(F) Salvation

We believe that terms of salvation are repentance toward God for sin and a personal heart-felt faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, which results in regeneration. This salvation is entirely by grace and not by works. (*Ephesians 2:6-10, Romans 5:1, Acts 3:19-20*).

(G) Second Coming

We believe in the visible, bodily return of Christ to this earth to judge the world and to claim His bride, the Church (*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 1:7*).

(H) Ordinances

We believe that water baptism by immersion and communion are open only to those who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior, have repented of their sins, and having received a spiritual baptism and acceptance of the Holy Spirit through the blood of Jesus Christ. These ordinances are observed as acts of faith and love, and are not absolute as necessary for salvation (*Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:34-36, 19:1-6, I Corinthians 11:17-28*), for salvation can only be obtained through the blood of Christ, the acceptance of the Holy Spirit, and the living of a life of prayer, worship and devotion.

(I) Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ, and that He is our abiding helper, teacher, and guide. We believe baptism of the Holy Spirit as a real experience, at or subsequent to salvation, empowering believers as witnesses of

Christ (*Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5, 2:1-4, 8:14-17, 10:44-46*). We believe in the gifts of the Holy Spirit (*John 14:16-17; 20:22; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4*), and that God may choose to answer the prayers of believers for healing.

(J) The Church

We believe the Church is under the leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ, not to be influenced by outside people or groups (*Acts 15:22, Matthew 16:18, 18:15-20*). Its congregation are followers in Christ and through acceptance of His Holy Spirit all believers shall have eternal life (*John 5:24, 3:16*), and all non-believers shall suffer eternal punishment and separation from God (*Mark 9:43-48, II Thessalonians 1:9, Revelation 20:10-15*).

(K) Sin

We believe that man was originally created in the image and after the likeness of God (*Genesis 1:26*) that he fell through sin (*Genesis 2:17*), and as a consequence of sin, man lost his spiritual life (*John 6:53*), becoming dead in trespasses and sins (*Ephesians 2:1-3, I Tim. 5:6*) Having done so, man subjected himself to the temptations and influence of the Satan (*I John 3:8*). We believe Christians should live life in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord, their reputation, or the Church. There should be a rejection of, and turning away from all sinful pleasures and practices (*Romans 12: 1-2, Ephesians 5:18, II Corinthians 6:14, 7:1, I John 2:15-17, II John 9-11*).

(L) Satan

We believe in the reality and personality of Satan and that he is the declared enemy of God and man (*Job 1:6-7, Ezekiel 28:11-19, Isaiah 14:12-17, Matthew 4:1-11*). We further believe that while as Christians we can be tempted and made to suffer by his acts, that by our authority through Jesus Christ we can bind his power and influence over our lives. (*Matthew 25:41, II Corinthians 6:14-18, 7:1*).

(M) Tithe

We believe that God established the tithe as a basis for giving as an act of charity and compassion (*Genesis 14:20, Proverbs 3:9-10*), that every Christian should give offerings sacrificially and cheerfully in support of the Church (*Acts 4:34-37, I Corinthians 16:2, 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, Galatians 6:6, Ephesians 4:28, 1 Timothy 5:17-18*), to assist the Church by means of their offering to perform works of charity and of ministry (*I John 3:17*), and to assist the Church in teaching the the Gospel of our Lord to those who need His word, so all of man may receive salvation (*Genesis 28:22, Malachi 3:8-10, Luke 18:12, Hebrews 7:2-9*).

(N) Authority

We believe God has ordained and created all authority in three basic institutions:
1) The Home, 2) The Church, and 3) The State.

Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God (*Romans 13:1-7, Ephesians 5:22-24, Hebrews 13:17, I Peter 2:13-14*) and shall be judged for their deeds.

(O) Genders

We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God (*Galatians 3:28*). We believe that God has commanded that no sexual activity should be engaged in outside of a marriage which has been ordained before God, and that only a marriage between one man and one woman can be ordained before God. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, bestiality, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions before God (*Genesis 2:24, 19:5-13, 26:8-9, Leviticus 18:1-30, Romans 1:26-29, I Corinthians 5:1, 6:9, I Thessalonians 4:1-8, Hebrews 13:4*).

(P) Abortion

We believe human life begins at conception and the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified taking of unborn human life (*Job 3:16, Psalms 51:5, 139:14-16, Isaiah 44:24, 49:1, Luke 1:44*).

(Q) Worship

We believe worship is a personal display of our faith and love for God, to honor God, His mercy and His grace, and is to reflect a sincere relationship with God (*Deuteronomy. 5:6-10, John 12:3-8, Romans 1:20-23, Romans 12:1-8*). We believe in the importance of prayer, and that as Christians we should pray to God daily for guidance in our lives, and that we should pray for and demonstrate our love for others, for all of mankind, Christians and Non-Christians (*Psalms 38:15, Psalms 32:6, Nehemiah 4:9, 2 Chronicles 7:14, 1 Chronicles 16:11*).

--- While these Articles of Faith are not an all-inclusive list of our beliefs, they do reflect the core beliefs of The Church, and are therefore binding to all members. The Holy Bible is the only source to include all of which we believe. ---