



FFCS STATEMENT OF FAITH

(one per family)
2017-2018

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This form is an example of what was agreed to online. It is for your information only.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell (Hades); the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick (living) and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Christian Church, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ever lasting. Amen.

(The Apostle's Creed, above, is found in *Luther's Large and Small Catechism* and the *Book of Concord*.)

FOUNDATIONAL BELIEFS AND TEACHINGS

We believe in the creation of man by the direct act of God (Gen. 1:26-28; Gen. 5:1,2).

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and those distinct, complimentary genders each and together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27.)

We believe in God's covenant of marriage between one man and one woman. We believe God established the family as the primary means by which children will grow in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Gen. 2:18-25; Deut. 6:4-7; Eph. 6:1-4).

We believe the Bible to be the verbally inspired and only infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God (II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21).

We believe that man is sinful by nature and that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential and an absolute necessity for his salvation (Rom. 3:19, 23; John 5:24; Eph. 2:8-19; Titus 3:5,6, John 3:16-19).

Grace Alone: God loves the people of the world, even though they are sinful, rebel against Him and do not deserve His love. He sent Jesus, His Son, to love the unlovable and save the ungodly (Eph. 2:8; Gal. 2:21).

Faith Alone: By his suffering and death as the substitute for all the people of all time, Jesus purchased and won forgiveness and eternal life for them. Those who hear this Good News and believe it have the eternal life it offers. God creates faith in Christ and gives people forgiveness through Him (Rom. 1:17, 3:22a, 3:28, 5:1, 2).

Scripture Alone: The Bible is God's inerrant and infallible Word, in which He reveals His law and His Gospel of Salvation in Jesus Christ. It is the sole rule and norm for Christian believers (Psalm 119:105; II Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:16; Hebrews 4:12).

STATEMENT OF FINAL AUTHORITY ON MATTERS OF FAITH AND CONDUCT

The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of FFCS's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our board of directors is FFCS's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.