## WALNUT STREET BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTIRES STATEMENT OF FAITH

- Every word in the original writings of the Holy Scripture is inspired of God and without error.
   (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21; I Corinthians 2:13)
- 2. The Godhead exists eternally in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one God. (Genesis 1:1; John 10:30; John 4:24; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 13:14)
- 3. Man was created in the image and likeness of God; but in Adam all mankind fell into sin with the result that all men are sinners, hopelessly sinful in themselves, apart from the grace of God. (Genesis 1:27; 3:1-24; 9:6; Romans 5:12; 3:23; Ephesians 2:1)
- 4. The eternal Son of God became incarnate in the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the true God and true Man, virgin born, and sinless in His life.(John 1:1; Matthew 1:21-23; Hebrews1:6,8; I John 5:20; I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:15)
- 5. Salvation is received by faith alone in Christ, who died in substitutionary sacrifice for our sins and rose again.

  (Acts 4:12; 13:38; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Romans 4:4; Romans 5; 5:1).
- 6. Every true believer is promised positional, progressive, and ultimate sanctification. (Heb. 10:10; Hebrews 14; John. 17:17; Ephesians 5:26, 27; I Thessalonians 4:3,4; I John 3:2)
- 7. All who are born of the Spirit through faith in Christ can have assurance of salvation and are eternally secure in Christ. (Romans 5:1; John 3:5,6; I John 5:13; John 10:28, 29; John 17:12; II Timothy 1:12)
- 8. The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Godhead, who regenerates, indwells, baptizes and seals all true believers in Christ and fills those yielded to God. (Matthew 28:19; John 1:13; John3:3-6; Titus 3:5;
  - I Corinthians 2:12; 6:19; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:30)

We believe that the Holy Spirit took up His abode in the world in a special sense on the Day of Pentecost, dwells in every believer, and by His baptism unites all Christians in one body, the Church universal. In this age, the Holy Spirit carries out the ministries of restraining evil in the world; convicting people of sin, righteousness, and judgment; regenerating all believers; indwelling and anointing all Christians and sealing them unto the day of redemption; baptizing into the body of Christ all who are saved; and filling each yielded believer for power and service. We believe that some gifts of the Holy Spirit are permanent and are to be used throughout the entire Church Age. Other gifts were temporary and were given in the Apostolic Age for the purpose of founding the Church. Having fulfilled their purpose, they are not necessary and thus are not given today. These include the gifts of apostleship, healing, miracles, prophecy, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues. (John 14:16,-17; I Corinthians 6:19; 12:28-30; 13:8; Ephesians 2:22; II Thessalonians 2:7)

- 9. The Church, composed of all true believers, is the body and bride of Christ, formed by the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The local church is a company of baptized believers whose duty it is to worship God, observe ordinances, edify itself, and evangelize the world. (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 5:24, 25, 30; I Corinthians 12:12,27; Philippians 1:1; Acts 4:24; Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 4:12)
- 10. Christians are called to a holy life of service and testimony in the power of the Holy Spirit, which service includes the propagation of the Gospel message to the whole world. There is promised reward in heaven for faithfulness in such service. (I Peter 1:15,16; Romans 12:1-2 Acts 1:8; I Corinthians 3:12-15)
- 11. The Scriptural ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper are for all true believers in Christ.

  (Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 9:18; 10:47; I Corinthians 1:16; 11:23-26)
- 12. Angels were originally created holy, but now exist as unfallen and fallen, including Satan. (Colossians 1:16; Nehemiah 9:6; Psalms 148:2-5: Jude 6; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 12:9, Ephesians 6:11,12)
- 13. God has revealed different dispensations or stewardships with corresponding rules of life, of which the present dispensation is the age of grace. (Ephesians 3:2-6, 9-11; Colossians 1:25-27; Romans 6:14; Hebrews 7:18, 19)
- 14. The imminent return of the Lord, which is the blessed hope of the Church, is to be followed in order by the tribulation, the second coming of Christ to the earth after the tribulation, the establishment of the reign of Christ on the earth for one thousand years, and the eternal state of blessing for the saved. (Titus 2:13;

  I Thessalonians 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:4-10; Revelation 3:10; 20-1-6; 20:11-15; Matthew 24:21,29,30; 25:46)
- 15. We believe, in this day of confusion, that it is vital for believers to remain separate from the world and separate unto Christ. We further believe it is important as a church to remain separate from any groups or movements that run contrary to the purposes of God's Word. Some such groups and movements are the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, the Ecumenical Movement, and the Charismatic Movement. (II Corinthians 6:14-18; Matthew 18:15-17)