

What We Believe

Lakeside Bible Chapel, Sterling Heights, Michigan

Doctrine is important to the congregation of Lakeside Bible Chapel. The Bible refers to the church as the pillar and foundation of the truth (1 Timothy 3:15). We are instructed to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints (Jude 3). Since the beginning of Lakeside Bible Chapel, we have endeavored to have unity in essential beliefs (Ephesians 4:4-6), and liberty in non-essential beliefs (Romans 14:1,4,12). Above all, we desire to maintain love toward each other (1 Corinthians 13:2, Ephesians 4:15).

The Bible:

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the Word of God. Each of the sixty-six books is fully and equally God-breathed (inspired) and without any error in the original writings. The Bible is God's message to man and is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

I Corinthians 2:13, II Peter 1:19-21, II Timothy 3:16, 17, I Thessalonians 2:13

God:

We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; these three are the one true God. They have the same nature and are co-existent, co-equal and co-eternal, and are worthy of the same worship, confidence and obedience.

Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19, John 1:18, Ephesians 4:6, Hebrews 9:14

Jesus Christ:

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. We believe that He was born of a virgin and lived a sinlessly perfect life. By His sacrificial death on the cross and His physical resurrection from the dead, He is the substitute for sinners. He is the only mediator between God and man, and only He can bring about reconciliation between sinful man and a holy God. He ascended into Heaven where He now ministers as the Head of His body, the Church.

1 John 5:20, Colossians 1:18, Matthew 1:23, John 1:17, Luke 1:35, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22,24, 1 Peter 3:18 , 1 Timothy 2:5,6, 2 Corinthians 5:18,19, 1 John 2:1,2, Acts 2:31,32, Luke 24:39, Ephesians 1:20,22,23

Holy Spirit:

We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment and guides us into all truth. The Holy Spirit indwells believers upon salvation, enabling them to live a godly life of obedience to God's Word by yielding to Him. We believe that the Holy Spirit seals the believer until the day of redemption.

1 Corinthians 6:19,20, Ephesians 4:30, Acts 1:8, Galatians 5:16,22,23, Ephesians 1:13,14, John 16:5-15

Human Beings:

We believe that man, through Adam, was created in the image of God, but because of willful sin was alienated from God. Therefore, every human being is born into the world sinful and unchangeable apart from the grace of God found in Jesus Christ.

Genesis 1:27, 3:6, Ephesians 2:8,9, Isaiah 59:1,2, Psalm 51:5, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12, 19

Salvation:

We believe that a person is saved when, by an act of faith, they repent of their sins and acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. At that moment, they are born again - a new creation in Christ - and sealed by the Holy Spirit. Salvation must be received as a gift of God, and cannot be earned. It is freely offered to all people and only those who receive it become children of God and possess the security of eternal life. Salvation is made possible through the blood of Christ, Who died a substitutionary death on the cross for man's sin and rose from the dead.

John 3:7,8,26, John 16:8-11, Luke 13:3, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Titus 3:5, Hebrews 9:12-14, 1 Peter 1:18,19, Ephesians 2:8,9, Romans 3:24,25, John 1:12, John 10:24-30, John 5:24, Acts 3:19, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

The Return of Jesus Christ:

We believe in the imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ to take His Church out of this world. After the seven-year tribulation, we believe in His personal and visible return to earth and the establishment of His Kingdom.

Acts 1:11, Jeremiah 33:14-18, John 14:1-4, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8, 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 & 4:14-18, Hebrews 9:24, Titus 2:13

Eternity:

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all human beings. Those who have trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation will have everlasting life with Him in heaven; the unbeliever will experience everlasting conscious punishment in hell.

John 5:28, 29, Revelation 22:4,5, Philippians 1:23, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10, Revelation 20:10-15

The Church:

We believe that the church is composed of all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and is therefore not an organization, but rather a living organism known as the Body of Christ. Local churches are responsible for government and discipline, and look to Christ as the Head of the church.

Ephesians 1:22,23, Hebrews 13:17, Colossians 1:18, Matthew 18:15-20, John 17:20, 21, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, 1 Corinthians 10:16

The Purpose of Lakeside Bible Chapel:

We believe that Lakeside Bible Chapel is a congregation of believers gathered by the Holy Spirit as a local expression of the church. Our primary goals are evangelism, Bible wisdom, fellowship, worship, prayer and stewardship. We observe the two ordinances of the church in obedience to Christ—water baptism of believers and the Lord's Supper.

Philippians 3:3, Ephesians 4:11, 12, 2 Timothy 4:2-5, Acts 20:28, 1 Corinthians 11:23-30, Romans 8:14, Acts 2:42, Matthew 28:19