

**New Life Community Church
Carlton, Minnesota**

ARTICLES OF FAITH

This we believe:

- A. We believe that the Holy Scriptures, the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments, are the divinely-revealed, verbally inspired, inerrant and authoritative Word of God and as such are the only source and norm of doctrine and life in the church. (John 10:35, 2 Timothy 3:15-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- B. We believe there is one true God (the Triune God), the Creator and Preserver of all things, who is eternally self-existent showing Himself to us in three distinct persons: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Deut 6:4, Num 6:22-27, Matt 3:16:17, 28:19, 2 Cor. 13:14)
- C. We believe in the total depravity of human nature, that although man was created in the image of God, he was tempted by Satan and fell into sin. As a consequence all men are both sinners and separated from God. (Ps 51:5, Is 53:6, Rom 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 7:18)
- D. We believe in the gospel of salvation which is the good news that God in His grace has provided forgiveness of sins through the finished work of Jesus as a free gift to all who will repent and believe. (John 1:12, 3:16, Rom 6:23, 10:9-10, Eph 2:8-9)
- E. We believe in the necessity of the new birth, of being born again into the Kingdom of God by the work of the Holy Spirit. (John 3:5-8, 16:7-15, Titus 3:5, 1 Pet 1:21-23)
- F. We believe in God, the Father:
 - 1. That He, through His Son, is the creator of all things visible and invisible who sustains and governs the whole created order. (Gen 1:1, Ps 33:6-11, Rom 11:33-36, Heb 1:1-3, Heb 11:3, Col 1:16+17)
 - 2. That out of His fatherly compassion He provided salvation for all human beings through the reconciling work of His Son, Jesus Christ. (John 3:16, 2 Cor 5:19)

3. That He demonstrates His love for those who become His children by guarding, instructing, and disciplining them and providing for all their needs. (Ps. 91, Matt 6:25-34, Gal 4:6-7, Heb 12:5-11)

G. We believe in God, the Son our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. That He is truly God, begotten of the Father from eternity and also truly man born of the Virgin Mary, who emptied Himself of the right to act as God and lived a sinless and obedient life as the sin bearer of all mankind. (John 1:1-14, Is 7:14, Matt 1:23, Heb 4:15, Philipp 2:5-8)
2. That during His earthly ministry He performed signs, wonders, and miracles through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Luke 4:18-21, Acts 10:38, Heb 2:4, John 2:11)
3. That His sacrificial death on the Cross and the shedding of His precious blood, He made full atonement for the sins of all mankind wherein God reconciled the world to Himself. (Acts 4:12, I Cor. 15:3, II Cor. 5:8-21, Eph. 1:7-8, Col 1:14, Heb. 9:11-15,22)
4. That He will physically return to earth at the close of the age in power and great glory to gather His church unto Himself and destroy death and its works. (Mark 14:61-62, Act 1:11, 17:31, 1 Cor 15:2-28 & 51-52, I Thess. 4:13-18, II Pet. 3:8-15, Rev 1:7)

H. We believe in God, the Holy Spirit:

1. That He is truly God, one with the Father and the Son having been sent by them to accomplish His ministry on earth. (John 14:26, Acts 2:17, 2:33)
2. That as the Spirit of Life, He regenerates (converts, saves) all true believers, convicting them of sin (John 16:8), revealing Jesus as their personal Savior (John 15:26, 16:13) and imparting saving faith to their hearts. (Eph 2:8-9)
3. That as the Sanctifier, He indwells all true believers (John 14:17, Rom 8:9) imparting a new nature. (Col 3:10)

4. That as the Counselor, He leads and guides the church into all truth, continually revealing the fullness of the Word of God. (John 14:26, II Tim 3:16-17)
- I. We believe in the baptism with the Holy Spirit (Matt 3:11)
 1. That this foundational Christian experience releases supernatural power for ministry through charismatic gifts of speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophecy, working of miracles, gifts of healing, faith, a word of wisdom, a word of knowledge, and discerning of spirits. (Mark 16:17, 1 Cor 2:7-11, Heb 2:4)
 2. That this promised blessing is intended for those who already have accepted Christ as Savior and Lord. (Luke 24:49, John 7:37-39, Acts 1:4+5, 2:1-4, 8:14-17)
 - J. We believe that divine healing is included in the atonement. (Is. 53:4-5, Matt 8:16-17)
 - K. We believe in water baptism by immersion for all true believers in order to seal and declare their identification with Christ. (Matt 28:19, Rom 6:3-7, Col 2:10-13)
 - L. We believe that children of believing parents should be dedicated to the Lord. (Matt 19:13-15, 1 Cor 7:14)
 - M. We believe the Lord's Supper is to be celebrated frequently as a participation in the Lord's body and blood under elements of bread and the fruit of the vine. (I Cor. 10:16)
 - N. We believe the true church is comprised of all people who, through saving faith, are united in the body of Christ, of which Jesus is the Head. (Eph 2:14-18, 1 Cor 12:13)
 - O. We believe that the local church, as an expression of the New Testament priesthood, should be a functioning body where every member is equipped and released into God's purpose for their lives. (John 15:8, I Cor. 12:7-31, I Pet. 4:10-11)