



# MEMBERSHIP

at Fredonia Hill Baptist Church  
Nacogdoches, TX

# INTRODUCTION

We're glad you've chosen to find out more about Fredonia Hill! This course is the basic introduction to our church family and is designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe.

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# Our History

Fredonia Hill Baptist Church has a rich heritage of being a church that loves God, obeys His commands and develops its members into disciples of Jesus. In 1923, First Baptist Church of Nacogdoches began a local missions program that started work in the south part of Nacogdoches.

In September of 1923 a revival was held on Fredonia Hill. In 1925 a small tabernacle was built for Sunday School. This continued until 1934 when Fredonia Hill Baptist Church became independent from First Baptist Church. The first organizational meeting took place on July 26, 1934. The church began with 32 members and soon began to increase in size. It's interesting to note that the church experienced immediate growth because on August 6, 1934 the Sunday School attendance effectively doubled.

K.A. Woods became the first pastor of Fredonia Hill Baptist Church following a revival in August 1934. In September of 1938 a new building was built. This building is now known as The Zone. By 1943 the church membership had grown to 725 and was continuing to reach people in Nacogdoches. The church added a new sanctuary and fellowship hall in 1949 - currently the "Heritage Building" and Gateway. Again the church experienced great growth and by 1950 had 926 members.

September 5, 1972 was the start day for the new Fredonia Hill Day School for children in pre-kindergarten through second grade. The Day School is now known as the Fredonia Hill Baptist Academy and has students through 8th grade.

Again, as the church continued to grow, a building program was launched. In 1978, Fredonia Hill dedicated the current worship center and adjacent rooms. As Fredonia Hill moved through the 1980's and into the 1990's it continued to grow. Fredonia Hill added the family life center in 1999. An additional remodeling project began in 2009 to remodel the old auditorium, fellowship hall, Sunday School classes and the worship center.

Fredonia Hill has a strong mission-sending heritage. Fredonia Hill has had former pastors go into full time ministry in international missions around the world. The church's heart is to glorify God as the bride of Christ in its local, national, and international communities.

# Our Structure

“For God is not a God of disorder; but of peace... Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.” - 1 Corinthians 14:33, 40

Believers who invest their hearts, time, families and finances in the building of a local church deserve to have confidence in church leadership. People are looking for leaders who conduct themselves with integrity and respect when making decisions that affect their lives. Jesus Christ is the head and senior pastor of the church. Because of this, church leaders must be good sheep who follow their chief shepherd, Jesus, very well before they even think about being under-shepherds leading any of his sheep.

The Bible describes three offices believers hold within the church: elder-pastors, deacons, and church members. The first role of office is that of the elder. The office of Elder is described using three words in the New Testament, elder (presbyteros), overseer (episcope) and pastor or shepherd (poimen), whereas the word for Deacon (diakonos) is most often translated as “servant”. Looking to the differences in the biblical requirements, we see that the main differences are that Elders must be able to teach (I Tim.3:2, Titus 1:9) and be able to rebuke false doctrine (Titus 1:9). Further, Elders are to keep watch over, shepherd, and exercise oversight of the church (Heb. 13:17, Acts 20:28, I Thes. 5:12 & I Peter 5:2), set an example (I Peter 5:3), rule (I Tim. 5:17), rebuke those who persist in sin (I Tim. 5:20) and pray for those who are sick (James 5:14).

The second office of church is that of the deacons. Deacons, in contrast, are to assist the Elders in ministry, one example of which is to care for the widows (Acts 6). The office of deacon simply means “servant”. The motivation of the deacon is humble obedience to God and loving desire to benefit the ones served. The primary list of qualifications for deacons is found in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. At Fredonia Hill the role of deacon is to assist and serve the Pastor, staff and Church body.

Membership is also an office in the church. Church membership is not a voluntary association like membership in a country club. Church membership is not for selfish people to use the church for their own agendas and felt needs. Church membership is for people who love Jesus, love the church, and want to help the church bring the love of Jesus to the world. Church membership is a commitment made by the member to the church and by the church to the member. Members invest their passions, service, resources, and relationships for the kingdom. The commitment to membership means active participation in ministry, in worship, in fellowship, and in service for the mission of the church, along with generous giving and evangelistic living.

On September 11th, 2016, Fredonia Hill Baptist church voted on new by-laws, which call for the church to be governed by an elder team. The lead pastor is a de facto member of the Elder Team, and is considered to be “first among equals”. The elder team, help govern, lead and teach the word of God at Fredonia Hill. The lead pastor is the primary communicator and shepherd of Fredonia Hill.

Fredonia Hill is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptists of Texas. While we value that relationship, we desire to steward well the unique vision God has

called Fredonia Hill to lead out autonomously in the very community we are called to serve. We subscribe to the 2000 Baptist Faith & Message.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Breshears, Gary and Driscoll, Mark; Doctrine: What Christians Should Believe, (Crossway, Wheaton, Illinois, 2010), 318-°©-322.

# SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

We believe there are three primary ways for our members to experience spiritual growth.

1. Be a part of our Sunday morning Worship Service
2. Join a Sunday School class
3. Study with us on Wednesday Nights

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Here at Fredonia Hill, we value biblical community. We strive to have a culture that prioritizes reading and understanding the Word of God. We believe that our Sunday School classes play a major role in establishing this culture. We offer numerous Sunday school, many of which are multi-generational. Sunday School starts at 9:30am each Sunday and lasts until 10:30am. Feel free to choose the Sunday School class that works the best for you. Listed below are several options for you to consider when choosing a Sunday School class (room location & demographic are included).

Fellowship Journey  
Location: The Studio  
30's-50's, Single & Married

Young Professionals  
Location: A108  
20's & 30's, Single & Married

Seekers  
Location: A209  
50's-80's, Single & Married

Roger Russell Class  
Location: A208  
40's-60's, Single & Married

Cupit/Phillips Sunday School  
Location: A210  
30's & 40's, Single & Married

Nueva Esperanza  
Location: A206  
Spanish Speaking, Single & Married

Faithful Friends  
Location: A210  
Adult Ladies, Single & Married

FH Students  
Location: The Zone & A212  
6th-12th Grade

Revive (University)  
Location: Gateway  
University Students, Single & Married

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDIES

Our Wednesday Night Studies serve as an opportunity for our members to have a concentrated learning experience in the middle of the week. Classes of numerous varieties are offered. Some classes are based on a particular topic, whereas others are based on an individual book of the Bible. Wednesday nights are a great opportunity for the whole family to be involved. Every Wednesday night, starting at 6pm and ending at 7:00pm, we have activities for Adults, Youth, Children, and Nursery. For more information regarding our Family Ministry, see page 11.

# THE GOSPEL

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

## God’s Plan Involves You

God has placed you in a circle of influence. You have connections and relationships with people like no one else. God has strategically placed you where you are to share His story through your story.

## POINTS OF PASSION

“You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

### 1. Jerusalem – Nacogdoches.

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.” James 1:27

### 2. Judea and Samaria – USA.

“To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.” 1 Corinthians 9:22–23

### 3. The Ends of the Earth – The World.

“And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” Mark 16:15

# Our Beliefs

*"Watch your life and your doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers." 1 Timothy 4:16*

## The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

## God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

### God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

### God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One

Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

## God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Saviour, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff.; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10,12; Luke 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11,14-16,26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8,14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

## Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

## Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

### God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7,19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22,31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45,65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6,12,17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7,26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5,13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

### The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural

officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3.

### Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

### The Lord's Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

### The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Matthew 3:2; 4:8-10,23; 12:25-28; 13:1-52; 25:31-46; 26:29; Mark 1:14-15; 9:1; Luke 4:43; 8:1; 9:2; 12:31-32; 17:20-21; 23:42; John 3:3; 18:36; Acts 1:6-7; 17:22-31; Romans 5:17; 8:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10,16; 12:28; 1 Peter 2:4-10; 4:13; Revelation 1:6,9; 5:10; 11:15; 21-22.

### Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell,

the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27,30,36,44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40,48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28,35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1,8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.

## Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17.

## Education

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

Deuteronomy 4:1,5,9,14; 6:1-10; 31:12-13; Nehemiah 8:1-8; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:7ff.; 119:11; Proverbs 3:13ff.; 4:1-10; 8:1-7,11; 15:14; Ecclesiastes 7:19; Matthew 5:2; 7:24ff.; 28:19-20; Luke 2:40; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 2:3,8-9; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 5:12-6:3; James 1:5; 3:17.

## Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4,19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21,42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

## Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.

## The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16,43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.

## Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of

His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9,38-48; 6:33; 26:52; Luke 22:36,38; Romans 12:18-19; 13:1-7; 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 4:1-2.

### Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7,24; 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans 6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1,13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.

### The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

## Sanctity of Human Life\*

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life.

1:26-27; Job 31: 13-15; Psalm 82:3-4; 127: 3; 139; Matthew 25:45

## Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality\*

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including, but not limited to, adultery, fornication, and use of pornography, or sexual behaviors or sexual identities such as homosexuality, bisexuality, transgenderism, incest, or bestiality) is sinful and offensive to God.

We believe that marriage and biblical manhood and womanhood are to be a gospel-centered reflection of Jesus Christ and His Bride, the Church. Any sexual behavior or gender image that does not reflect such a gospel-centered relationship, whether in marriage or singleness, is considered sin and not imitating God.

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of FH as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the FH members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by FH in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality.

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture or doctrines of FH.

Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18-25; I Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4; Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Ephesians 5:1-21; Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31

## Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct\*

This Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. 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 the purposes of FH's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Elder Team is the Church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meanings and application. When issues arise that require

further clarification, the Elder Team may develop and publish, on the FH website, a position paper detailing FH's interpretation of the applicable biblical passages. These position papers will be considered as part of this Statement of Faith until such time as either the position paper is rescinded by the Elder Team or these bylaws are amended.

Acts 20:28-35; 1 Timothy 6:2-21

*\*These sections are from the Constitution and Bylaws of Fredonia Hill Baptist Church and not part of The Baptist Faith and Message of the Southern Baptist Convention.*

# OUR PRACTICES

## BAPTISM

Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:41; Ephesians 2: 8-9; Matthew 28:19-20

## COMMUNION

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:19,20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

## STEWARDSHIP

Psalm 24:1-2, 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

### *Giving Opportunities*

Every Sunday morning we have a time of offering during the service. You can also give online at [fredoniahill.com](http://fredoniahill.com) or through our text-to-give service. If you would like to use our text-to-give simply text "Give" to 936-585-6440. You will then be guided through a simple process to set up text giving.

## WORSHIP

Matthew 22:37-38, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Romans 12:1

# OUR MINISTRIES

## FH KIDS\*

FH Kids provides a safe and loving environment for children to encounter the Lord. We take safety seriously and we do everything possible to make it a safe place for your family. Since we believe parents are God's chosen primary faith trainers for their children, we will partner with you to help equip you to lead your children to grow in their faith. Our FH Kids staff is here to serve you!

## FH STUDENTS\*

We love students and desire to serve parents by coming alongside their teen and pointing them to the life-changing message of the gospel. Our goal is to equip and empower students to connect, grow and serve Christ through interactive teaching and intentional small groups that are immersed in the gospel.

\*We require all volunteers interested in working with FH Kids or FH Students to complete the Ministry Safe program before they can serve.

## REVIVE

REVIVE is the college/young adult ministry at Fredonia Hill. Our desire is to see college students and young adults experience the Lord in a deeper way through fellowship, worship, teaching, and prayer. We meet in The Gateway every Sunday Morning at 9:30 and would love for you to join us!

## WORSHIP

God has blessed us with incredible opportunities for Worship in numerous ministries at Fredonia Hill. As a group, our Worship Ministry is passionate about leading our congregation in praise, writing songs for the local church, and serving behind the scenes. We believe that every moment of the day is an opportunity to worship Jesus.

## DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL

Discipleship School is a 10-month program at Fredonia Hill designed to provide a foundation for a lifestyle of obedience to Christ through sound biblical doctrine, practice, and experience.

Students in Discipleship School will learn to live by the Spirit each day and influence the people and environments in which God has placed them.

## JOY MINISTRY

There is a great JOY in sharing the love of Christ with others. Here at Fredonia Hill, we believe it is part of God's plan to love, care, and welcome children and adults with special needs into our church family and community. A special needs room with challenging sensory toys and calming places to retreat. Buddy programs allow children to participate in classes and events. Well trained volunteers who are ready to make your time at Fredonia Hill the best experience for your whole family.

## HAITI

A few years ago Fredonia Hill committed to serve the country of Haiti. Since then, we have taken multiple teams each year to serve people in and around Merger, Haiti. Teams have conducted medical clinics, VBS, construction projects, and cared for orphans.

# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

One of the best ways to get plugged in at Fredonia Hill is through serving the church. We have numerous areas that you and your family can serve in. If one of these specific areas interests you, please let our staff know! We want to help you serve.

## Service Areas

- Campus Care Team
- FH Kids
- FH Students
- Joy Ministry (Special Needs Ministry)
- Hospitality Team
- Media Team
- Men's Ministry
- Missions
- Nursery
- Nueva Esperanza (Spanish Speaking Ministry)
- Senior Adult
- Small Groups
- Revive (University Ministry)
- Welcome Team
- Women's Ministry
- Worship Team

# Family Ministry Breakdown

*Deuteronomy 6:5-7 (NIV)*

*"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."*

God initiated two powerful influences that are available to every single child: the church and the home. We believe that both exist to demonstrate God's plan of redemption and restoration. When they work together, they can potentially make a greater impact than if they work alone. Deuteronomy 6 clearly states that the most important task parents are called to is discipling their children. At Fredonia Hill, we want to both equip and serve you with the tools and resources to guide you in your journey of family discipleship. Here are a list of different ministries that are geared toward the family, along with service times and FAQ's.

## PRESCHOOL - Sunday & Wednesdays

Preschool kids (infants - PreK-5) meet in the Nursery with leaders who provide loving care for them and begin to teach them biblical truths. Our focus with preschool kids is centered on three foundational biblical truths: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever. We teach these truths through age-appropriate Bible stories, songs and other fun activities.

*What will my child learn each week?*

For kids age two and up we focus on teaching them these three basic truths: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever. We work through stories and characters from the Bible to help children learn these truths.

*Who will my child's leader be?*

We have a team of leaders who serve each week in our FH Kids rooms. Leaders serve weekly, providing a consistent presence to develop relationships with parents and children to help ensure their safety and knowledge of a loving God. Room assistants serve either weekly or bi-weekly and help to facilitate learning and care, providing personalized help to children. All volunteers are background checked and attend several ongoing volunteer trainings each year.

*Are there steps in place to assure my child's safety?*

Fredonia Hill is dedicated to creating safe environments for children. Upon check in you will receive two stickers, each containing a 4-digit code. One sticker will go on your child, the other you will keep. You must present your sticker that matches your child's sticker for your child to be released to you upon pick-up. Please note that your child cannot be released to you without the corresponding sticker.

## ELEMENTARY - Sunday & Wednesdays

Elementary Kids (K - 5th Grade) meet each week in Kidville and have a couple different learning environments. Check under the "Activities," question below for more information about what these unique environments look like.

Sundays - Sunday School (9:30-10:30pm)

In the Sunday School hour, children will learn through various hand-on activities like icebreakers, songs, crafts and video teachings. These activities help kids discuss and learn the Bible, while also giving them a tangible way to remember what is being taught. The curriculum we are using is 252 Kids by Orange. For great parent resources and ideas, check out Studio252.tv

Wednesdays - Kids Quest (6:00-7:00pm)

Kids Quest is a fun time to reinforce what we learned on Sunday. During this time, we will have large group Bible stories, play games and a missional focus. Kids Quest is a great opportunity for kids to learn & live out the great commission!

*What will my child learn each week?*

Elementary kids concentrate on 3 basic truths: I need to make the wise choice (wisdom), I can trust God no matter what (faith), and I should treat others the way I want to be treated (friendship). Children learn those 3 basic truths through a different life app each month.

*Who will my child's leader be?*

We have a trained team of leaders who serve our Elementary children in Kidville. Small Group Leaders serve weekly, providing a consistent presence to develop relationships with parents and children to help ensure their safety and knowledge of a loving God. All volunteers are background checked and attend several ongoing volunteer trainings each year.

*Are there steps in place to assure my child's safety?*

Fredonia Hill is dedicated to creating safe environments for children. Upon check in you will receive two stickers, each containing a 4-digit code. One sticker will go on your child, the other you will keep. You must present your sticker that matches your child's sticker for your child to be released to you upon pick-up. Please note that your child cannot be released to you without the corresponding sticker.

FH STUDENTS - Sundays & Wednesdays

We love students and desire to serve parents by coming alongside their teen and pointing them to the life-changing message of the gospel. Our goal is to equip and empower students to connect, grow and serve Christ through interactive teaching and intentional small groups that are immersed in the gospel.

Sundays - Rooted (9:30-10:30am)

During Rooted, students are split into Middle School and High School groups where interactive Bible study connects them in conversation. The focus of Rooted is to help students deepen their faith and teach them to apply it to every day life.

Wednesdays - The Gathering (5:30-7:15pm)

The Gathering is our midweek event for students grades 6-12th. Each week this worship gathering allows students to build friendships, hear relevant teaching and have fun together in biblical community. The focus of The Gathering is to help students ask questions about Christianity, experience fellowship with their peers, and deepen their love for Jesus.

# Fredonia Hill Baptist Church Covenant

We never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do. These responsibilities are spelled out in the Membership Covenant.

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Fredonia Hill family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

## 1. I will protect the unity of my church...

- By acting in love toward other members
- By refusing to gossip
- By following the leaders

"So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together." Romans 14:19

"Live in complete harmony with each other - each with the attitude of Christ toward each other." Romans 15:5

"Have a sincere love for your fellow believers, love one another earnestly with all your hearts."  
1 Peter 1:22

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs..." Ephesians 4:29

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you." Hebrews 13:17

## 2. I will share the responsibility of my church...

- By praying for its growth
- By inviting the un-churched to attend
- By warmly welcoming those who visit

"To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." 1 Thess. 1:2

"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My House will be full." Luke 14:23

"So warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified." Romans 15:7

## 3. I will serve the ministry of my church...

- By discovering my gifts and talents
- By investing in the Vision and Mission of my church
- By being equipped to serve by my pastors
- By developing a servant's heart

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you..." 1 Peter 4:10

"God gave...some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up..." Ephesians 4:11-12

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ...who took on the very nature of a servant...” Philippians 2:3-4, 7

#### 4. I will support the testimony of my church...

- By attending church and small groups faithfully
- By living a godly life (your lifestyle glorifies Christ)
- By giving regularly

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

“Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...but let us encourage one another.”  
Hebrews 10:25

“But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Philippians 1:27

“Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering.” 1 Corinthians 16:2

“A tenth of all you produce is the Lord’s, and it is holy.” Leviticus 27:30

Please fill out the membership application online at [fredoniahill.com](http://fredoniahill.com). Once your application is submitted, it will be reviewed by staff and elders for approval. You will be notified via email of the status of your application or further instruction. One application is required per family member.