

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH STATEMENT OF FAITH

GCC Full Statement of Faith expresses the positions of Grace Community Church on specific issues of doctrine among the variety of beliefs held within the greater community of the body of Christ. This Statement is to be a guide for the preaching and teaching ministries of the church. Teaching within the church is to be consistent with this Statement of Faith.

- We believe that the Old and New Testaments of the Bible are verbally inspired of God, inerrant in the original manuscripts, and that they are the supreme and final authority in matters of faith and practice.
- We believe in one God, existing eternally in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; that Jesus Christ not only is the Son of God, but that He is God and that the Holy Spirit is God.
- We believe that man was created in the very image of God to reflect God's character and holiness but the first man, Adam, sinned and incurred the just wrath of God and that all men are born in sin and are completely unable to save themselves from its power and addiction.
- We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man. He purchased the forgiveness of our sin through His death on the cross as a propitiatory and substitutionary sacrifice and that our redemption is made sure to us by His resurrection. We believe in the literal, physical resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into Heaven; in His present intercession for believers and in His literal, personal, bodily return.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the triune Godhead sharing the same nature as the Father and the Son. He was sent from the Father to glorify Jesus Christ. He bears witness to the truth, convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgment. He grants spiritual gifts to the members of Christ's body, the church, for the edification of believers and the evangelization of the world.
- We believe that forgiveness of sin is granted as a gift from God to each individual who will repent and trust the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and acknowledge Him personally as the Lord who alone has the authority to forgive sin.
- We believe that a person is born-again and baptized into the Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit at the moment of conversion and He indwells each believer as the Teacher and Guide into all truth. His presence is the guarantee of eternal salvation. Each believer is gifted by the Holy Spirit to serve as a member in the Body of Christ and each believer is responsible for using the gifts of the Spirit to build up the Church and to serve others.
- We believe in believer's baptism as an act of obedience to Christ's command. We believe that water baptism by immersion in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit sets forth the essential facts of redemption: the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord as well as the personal experience of death, burial and resurrection of the believer.
- We believe that the Lord's Supper is a commemoration of the Lord's death until He comes and is to be celebrated by believers only on a regular basis after honest self-examination before God.
- We believe that a church according to the New Testament epistles is a body of believers thus baptized and associated for worship, fellowship, teaching, prayer, and evangelization of the lost and is the earthly manifestation of Christ's kingdom until He comes again. We believe that every local church should seek to encourage and fellowship with other churches who uphold the truth of Scripture

and seek to lead people to repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ

- We believe in the historic Baptist distinctives which are based upon the Word of God. In summary they are: 1) The preeminence of Christ as our Lord and Savior, 2) The priesthood of all believers with individual access to God, 3) A regenerate church membership, 4) That baptism by water immersion & the Lord's Supper are ordinances which symbolically represent the work of our Lord, 5) The separation of church and state where the influence of the state might regulate the worship of the Church, 6) The autonomy or self-government of the local church and the privilege of fellowship & association with other churches, 7) A world-wide program of evangelistic ministries in obedience to the final command of our Lord which involves local, regional and world-wide endeavors.
- We believe in the bodily resurrection of every person whether believer or unbeliever and in the everlasting conscious blessedness of the saved and the everlasting conscious punishment and suffering of those who refused to repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ.