

ROCKY RIVER CHURCH, INC.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We are a church that emphasizes these beliefs of the Christian faith:

God

We believe that there is only one true and living God, who is one in essence, while eternally existing in three distinct personalities: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Though each person of the Godhead possesses the same nature, each functions differently in respect with God's interactions with people. *Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 3:16; 28:19; John 14:16,26; 2 Corinthians 13:14*

God the Father

We believe that God the Father is the creator and sustainer of all things. He is eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing, perfect in moral purity, and punishing of sin and rebellion against him. He directs all things according to His own purpose, pleasure, and grace for His own glory. He graciously involves Himself in the affairs of people, hears and answers prayer, and saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. *Genesis 1:1; Matthew 6:9; John 5:19-24; Luke 10:21; 2 Peter 1:3*

God the Son

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He was born of the virgin Mary, becoming fully man while remaining fully God. He suffered and was tempted in all ways like us, but He never sinned. He voluntarily died on the cross, in our place, accepting the punishment for our sins. On the third day He rose in bodily form from the dead and achieved victory over death. He ascended into heaven where He is now our advocate and intercedes on our behalf before the Father. He will one day return to the earth in bodily form to establish His Kingdom, over which He will reign in righteousness and peace. *Isaiah 9:6-7; Matthew 4:1-11; 16:22-27; 26:36-45; Luke 1:26-38; 2:6-7, 21; John 1:1; Acts 2:24-27; Hebrews 12:2*

God the Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify Jesus Christ by convicting people of their sin, by regenerating sinners, and by indwelling, guiding, teaching, empowering, and gifting believers for godly living and service. The Holy Spirit is a seal, a promise that God will not abandon us or forsake us but has secured us for this life and life eternal. We also believe in the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. The bible says we shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost and with fire! *Matthew 3:11; Matthew 28:19; John 3:3-7; 16:8-11; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Galatians 5:16-17, 22-25; Ephesians 1:13-14*

The Bible

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God. It was inspired by God and is inerrant in the original writings. By inspired by God, we mean God's direction of human authors so that using their own individual personalities they composed and recorded His revelation to people. By inerrant, we mean that the original manuscripts contained nothing that is false. The Bible is the supreme, final, and infallible authority in doctrine and practice. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises. *Psalm 119:160; Matthew 5:16-18; 28:20; Romans 1:2; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17; Hebrews 10:23; 2 Peter 1:4, 19-21; Revelation 22:18-19*

Humanity

We believe that all people, both male and female, are the special creation of God, made in His own image. Therefore, every person of every race and gender possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love. In the beginning Adam and Eve were innocent of sin and were endowed by their Creator with freedom of choice. However, they chose to rebel against God and thereby brought sin into the human race. Consequently, as their descendants, all people are now sinners both by nature and by choice and, apart from salvation through Jesus Christ, are eternally separated from God. *Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:17; 3:6, 19; Isaiah 59:2; Romans 3:10-18; 5:12-21; Ephesians 2:1-3*

Salvation

We believe that salvation is a gift of God and is received only through personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. A person is justified by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from human merit, works, or ceremonies. All true believers, "born again" by the Spirit through faith in Christ, are kept secure in Christ forever and will exhibit the present evidence of a transformed life. At the end of this age, all believers will enter eternal fellowship and joy with God in a new heaven and new earth, and all unbelievers will enter into eternal punishment. *Isaiah 11:2-5; Matthew 25:46; John 10:27-30; Romans 3:23-24; 6:23; 8:33-39, 10:9-13; Ephesians 2:8-10; Revelation 21:1-4*

The Church

We believe that the universal church, the Body and Bride of Christ, is not an organization but a spiritual family comprised of all who have expressed saving faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The local church is an assembly of professed believers in Jesus Christ, who are voluntarily joined together for the purpose of worship, study of the Word of God, observance of the ordinances, Christian fellowship, and equipping for Christian service. Therefore, our church is seeking to be a community of grace that holds each other accountable to live a life glorifying to God, through fellowship, discipleship and outreach. *Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-47; Romans 12:1-8; Ephesians 5:21-32; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 10:25*

Ordinances

We believe there are two ordinances of the Church: Baptism (Father, Son & Holy Ghost), by immersion, which is in direct obedience to Christ's command and publicly identifies the believer with Christ; and the Lord's Supper, which memorializes Christ's atoning death and resurrection while anticipating His return.

Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 11:23-24