

## Christian Beliefs and Convictions

<b>God the Father</b>	Father and Creator of the universe - <i>Genesis 1 and 2</i>
<b>Jesus Christ the Son</b>	The incarnation of God in the person of Jesus of Nazareth - <i>The Gospels</i>
<b>The Holy Spirit</b>	The presence of God in the world and in the believer - <i>Acts 2:1-21</i>
<b>The Bible</b>	The inspired and authoritative word of God serving as the source for faith and practice for all people - <i>II Tim 3:16</i>
<b>The Church</b>	The universal fellowship of Jesus Christ's followers - <i>Acts 2:42-47</i>
<b>Baptism</b>	The sign of God's faithful covenant via the atoning work of Jesus Christ indicating initiation into the Church community as practiced and commanded by Jesus Christ - <i>Acts 2:38-39, Matthew 28:16-20</i>
<b>The Lord's Supper</b>	A practice and command of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit draws us towards greater holiness as the bread and the fruit of the vine represent the sacrificial body and blood of Christ. As Jesus illustrated within the context of the Jewish Seder meal, the bread and cup symbolize the New Covenant between God and all people. - <i>Luke 22:7-23, I Cor. 11:17-26</i>
<b>Forgiveness of Sin</b>	Sin, the separation of all creatures from the holy God, is forgiven through the atoning work of Jesus Christ in His crucifixion. - <i>Col. 1:15-20</i>
<b>Life Everlasting</b>	The resurrection of Jesus Christ ensures life everlasting for those who confess to believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. - <i>Romans 10:9-10</i>
<b>Holy Living</b>	In grateful response to the atoning work of Christ and the Holy Spirit's regenerative work, Christians are called to live out Godly habits, set worthy examples and steward their resources of time, talent and treasures. Holy living involves practicing Biblical virtues motivated only by the desire to honor a holy God. - <i>Col. 2:16-23, Genesis 1:28</i>
<b>Marriage</b>	Marriage is a covenantal relationship created and entered into by God and a man and a woman. Sexual behavior is a gift from God that is to be enjoyed with fidelity in the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman and there must be chastity in singleness. - <i>Ephesians 5:30-33, 1 Cor. 6:12-20</i>
<b>Kingdom Building</b>	Being called to obedience by God's grace, Christians extend to one another and all people the same love, grace, mercy and justice shown by Christ. Through preaching, teaching and support of mission work in our communities and around the world, Christians begin to build God's Kingdom. - <i>I Cor. 13, Micah 6:8, Isaiah 61</i>