

Listed below is a more detailed and traditional Statement of Faith that Island Community Church has historically maintained.

As you read these statements, you will see that they are rich with spiritual truth. Do not try to hurry through these pages, but read them slowly and thoughtfully. Ask yourself throughout, “What difference does this truth make in my life? If I didn’t know or believe this, would it matter?”

1) The sole basis for our belief is the Bible, which is uniquely God-inspired, without error, its original documents being the “God-breathed” Word of God, the written record of His supernatural revelation of Himself to man, without any errors in its statements. It is the final authority on all matters on which it bears. II Timothy 3:16; John 10:34; Psalm 89:34; Hebrews 6:18; II Peter 3:16; Revelation 22:18,19.

2) There is one God, eternally existent, Creator of heaven and earth. He is manifested in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each possessing all the attributes of Deity. Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6; John 14:9; I Timothy 3:16; I John 5:7; Genesis 1:2.

3) The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God who took on flesh and dwelt on earth. He is sinlessly perfect and gave Himself as our substitute (substitutionary atonement or sacrifice) by shedding His blood and dying on a cross as the payment for our sins. After three days He came back from the dead. His death, burial, and resurrection was the payment and proof that all of our sins (past, present, and future) have been paid. 1 John 2:2; II Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 2:9; 9:2-28; 10:10-14; Acts 13:38-41; Titus 2:14; I Peter 2:24; I John 3:5.

4) God is absolutely sovereign and in His sovereignty gives man a free will to accept or reject the salvation that He has provided. It

is God's will that all would be saved and that none should perish. God foreknows, but does not predetermine any man to be condemned. God permits man's destiny to depend upon man's choice. I Timothy 2:4; II Thessalonians 2:13; I Peter 1:2; II Peter 3:9; John 5:64-65; Acts 10:34; I Corinthians 1:21; Ephesians 1:5-14; Romans 8:29-30; 9:30-32.

5) Each member of the human race is fallen, sinful, and lost; regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for the salvation of man. The moment a person receives Christ as his Savior, the Holy Spirit immediately indwells him, and he/she is sealed until the day of redemption. Romans 3:23; John 3:7; 7:39; I Corinthians 6:19; Ephesians 1:13-14; Luke 24:49; Titus 3:5.

6) Man is saved by undeserved mercy through faith in Christ's redemptive work, and nothing of man enters into his salvation. It is a free gift. Man's efforts, or works, regardless of how good or well intended they are, have nothing to do with it. Neither before nor after salvation do man's works determine man's salvation. Salvation is by the finished work of Christ, and nothing can be added to it. Eph. 2:8, 9; Gal. 2:16; Rom. 11:6; Colossians 2:13; Titus 3:5; Romans 3:22.

7) Every true child of God possesses eternal life, being justified freely by grace, through faith in Christ and His redemptive work. He is sanctified by God, is sealed with the Holy Spirit, is safe and secure for all eternity; and he cannot lose his salvation. However, a Christian can, through sin, lose his fellowship, joy, power, testimony, and reward, and incur the Father's chastisement. Relationship is eternal, being established by the new birth. Fellowship, however, is dependent upon conformity to His will and purposes for our lives. I Corinthians 3:11-17; Hebrews 12:5-11; I Corinthians 11:30-32.

8) The Church began with the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and is composed of all those who have placed their trust in Christ as personal Savior. By the Holy Spirit we are all baptized into the one body of Christ. Water baptism is not a part of salvation, but is a testimony to the world, demonstrating that one wants to identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Acts 1:8; I Corinthians 6:19, 20; Acts 2:1-4; I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5; Acts 10:47.

9) A True child of God has two births; one of the flesh, and the other of the Spirit, giving man a flesh nature and a Spirit nature. The flesh nature is neither good nor righteous. The Spiritual Man does not commit any sin. This results in warfare between the Spirit and the flesh, which continues until physical death, or the return of the Lord. The flesh nature of man does not change in any way with the new birth, but can be controlled and kept subdued by the new man. John 3:3-7; Romans 7:15-25; 8:8; Gal. 5:17; I John 3:9; I Peter 2:23; I John 5:18; I John 1:8.

10) The true child of God is not under the Law, but under grace: saved by grace, and disciplined by grace. Romans 6:14; Romans 11:6; II Corinthians 3:17.

11) Repent (metanoieo) means "to change the mind." Repentance in salvation means a change of mind from dependence on self, philosophy, or religion as a means of attaining forgiveness for sins and earning salvation. We must be fully dependent upon God's way of salvation. While repentance in its pure meaning and definition does not in any sense include a demand for a change of conduct before or after salvation, it is understood that the inter working of the Holy Spirit will lead to a new walk and set of desires. Acts 20:21; II Corinthians 7:8-10; Matthew 21:32.

12) There will be a resurrection of the saved and the lost; of the saved unto eternal life, and of the lost unto eternal punishment. These two resurrections are separated by at least a thousand years. I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Daniel 12:2; Revelation 20:1-5; Matthew 25:41.

13) Satan is a real being, the author of sin, and he and his angels shall be eternally condemned due to their rebellion and rejection of God. Ezekiel 28:15, 17; Isaiah 14:12-15; Revelation 20:10; Matthew 25:41.

It is every Christian's duty and privilege to make clear God's plan of salvation, wherever and in whatever vocation he or she may be. Mark 16:15; I Thessalonians 2:4; I Peter 3:15.

The general plan of salvation as outlined in God's Word is as follows and is believed and practiced by Island Community Church: There are, of course, no set steps in leading a person to Christ. This is a general outline that has proven successful.

- All have sinned. Romans 3:10; 3:23; Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9; James 2:10.
- The penalty for sin is death. Romans 6:23; Ezekiel 18:20.
- Perfection is required to enter heaven. Revelation 21:27; Habakkuk. 1:13.
- Man can do nothing on his own to obtain this perfection. Ephesians 2:8,9; Galatians. 2:16; Romans 4:5.
- God provided One to bear our sins in our place and to impute to man His righteousness. That sin-bearer is Jesus Christ. II Corinthians. 5:21; Philippians 3:9; Isaiah. 53:6; I Peter 3:18.
- Man needs only believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior for salvation. John 3:16; Romans 10:9; John 1:12; Acts 16:31.

- Man can be certain of his salvation now, and can be sure that his salvation cannot be lost because eternal life is just that - eternal. John 6:37, 39; John 10:28; I Peter 1:5; Hebrews 10:10-14; I John 5:13.

We view the following doctrines as doctrines that one should not part fellowship over, and opinions may vary on some aspects of these. But we hold them as part of our historical statement of faith and beliefs.

14) We believe in the personal pre-tribulation and pre-millennial return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9-11; Revelation. 4:4; Isaiah 26:17-21; 27:1; II Thessalonians 2:1-8; Revelation 3:10; Luke 21:36; Titus 2:13.

15) God can heal, but physical healing is not in the atonement. God heals miraculously today when it is His perfect will to do so. Healing cannot be claimed through the guarantee of the atonement. At times, it is God's will for sickness not to be removed. II Corinthians. 12:8-10; James 5:14-16.

16) The gift of tongues (other dialects or languages) was a manifestation of the Spirit's power solely for the demonstration of God's wisdom, purpose, and power in the establishment of the early church, and always was in a language that was in use. Acts 2:16; I Corinthians 14:22. As in all workings of God, He may choose to allow this gift to be used today to explain His plan of salvation to one who may not speak the language of the speaker. Island Community Church does not embrace what might be called the "Modern Tongues Movement."