

Mountain Christian Fellowship
Statement of Faith, Character, Belief and Ordinances

1. **WE BELIEVE** that there is one living and true GOD, eternally existing in three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all. (Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 5:7)
2. **WE BELIEVE** that the SCRIPTURES of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, fully inspired without error in the original manuscripts, and the infallible rule of faith and practice. The Word of God is the foundation upon which this church operates and is the basis for which this church is governed. We believe that the Word of God supersedes any earthly law that is contrary to the Holy Scriptures. We believe that the Bible forms the foundation from which we establish our doctrine and Statement of Faith. (Isaiah 28:10; Nehemiah 8:8; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 1:3-4, 19-21)
3. **WE BELIEVE** in the person of GOD THE FATHER, an infinite, eternal, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love; that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men; that He hears and answers prayer; and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalms 90:2; Psalms 102:27; John 3: 16, 4:24; 1 Timothy 1:17; Titus 1:3)
4. **WE BELIEVE** in the person of JESUS CHRIST, God's only begotten Son, begotten not made, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings, His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people and personal, visible return to Earth. (Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2; Matthew 1:23; Mark 16:19; Luke 1:34-35; John 1:1-2; John 8:58; John 11:25; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Hebrews 1:8; 1 John 1:2; Revelation 1:8)
5. **WE BELIEVE** in the person of the HOLY SPIRIT, who came forth from the Father and the Son to bear witness to the truth, to convict the world of sin, to reveal the righteousness of God, and bring awareness of the judgment upon disobedience, and ultimately to regenerate, sanctify and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ; (Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 3:18; John 16:8-11; Romans 15:13,16; Hebrews 9:14)
6. **WE BELIEVE** in the INDWELLING of the Holy Spirit, that He seals every believer in Jesus Christ and that He is an abiding Helper, Teacher, and Guide. (John 14:16-17, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19)
7. **WE BELIEVE** in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and in the exercise of all the Biblical GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT according to the instruction given to us in the Bible. (Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12 & 14)
8. **WE BELIEVE** that all PEOPLE ARE SINNERS by nature and by choice and, therefore, are under condemnation; that God regenerates humanity by the Holy Spirit, those who repent of their sins and confess Jesus Christ as Lord; receiving from Him the free gift of salvation by grace through faith in His atoning work on the Cross and His resurrection from the dead; that Jesus Christ baptizes the seeking believer with the Holy Spirit and power for service, often subsequent to regeneration. (Acts 8:15-17; Titus 3:5, Romans 3:10, 23 John 3:3, Acts 1:8)
9. **WE BELIEVE** in a LITERAL HEAVEN and a LITERAL HELL and that all those who place their faith, hope and trust in Jesus Christ will spend eternity in Heaven with the Lord, while those who reject Jesus' free gift of salvation will spend eternity separated from the Lord in Hell. (Matthew 5:3, 7:13-14, 25:31-34; Hebrews 12:22-23; 1 Peter 1:4; Psalm 9:17; Matthew 5:22; Luke 12:5)

10. **WE BELIEVE** in the BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, and the laying on of hands for ordination of pastors, elders, deacons, and for receiving of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:11, John 20:22, Acts 1:8, 6:6, 8:17; 1 Timothy 4:14)
11. **WE BELIEVE** in the Rapture of the Church, the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ which is His personal, visible RETURN to earth, and the establishment of His millennial Kingdom, in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment and eternal blessing of the righteous and endless separation and suffering of the wicked. (Matthew 16:27; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16,17, Revelation 19:11-16, 20:11-15)
12. **WE BELIEVE** in the universal CHURCH, the living spiritual body, of which Jesus Christ is the Head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe that Christians should desire to pursue unity within the Body of Christ as a witness of His unconditional love towards humanity.

In light of this belief, here expressed in article 12, and in reference to article 10 and article 11 of Mountain Christian Fellowship's Statement of Faith, Character, Belief and Ordinances, we recognize that Christians can hold differing views on the receiving and exercising of spiritual gifts, and that Christians can arrive at varied interpretations concerning Biblical eschatology and yet still worship God in unity. However, we also believe it is necessary that in order for this to properly function within a particular church of believers, that those who lead, teach, or serve in any capacity within a particular church should do so in humble submission to the stated beliefs concerning spiritual gifts and eschatology of the church, as well as to the church's appointed leadership - the Senior Pastor and the Elders, and that they should refrain from teaching or persuading others to ascribe to doctrines or interpretations that differ from the church's stated beliefs concerning spiritual gifts and eschatology. Questions and disputations about these, and any other doctrinal issues, should be freely brought to, and discussed with, the church's appointed leadership. - the Senior Pastor and the Elders, for the purpose of keeping the Unity that the Holy Spirit has brought upon the Church (1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:1-16)

13. **WE BELIEVE** that the Lord Jesus Christ committed two UNIVERSAL ORDINANCES to the Church: Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. We believe in baptism by immersion and communion open to all believers. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Corinthians 11:23-30)
14. **WE BELIEVE** that the INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE is a DETERMINED ORDINANCE given by God, that it is a holy, covenantal, sacrament, which serves as a model of the relationship between our Lord Jesus Christ and His Bride, the Church as described in the Bible. Furthermore, we believe that Biblical Marriage is exclusively the monogamous, lawful, union of one biological genetic man with one biological genetic woman. Accordingly, this ministry will not perform any marriage ceremonies between two individuals of the same sex, nor will it condone, recognize such same-sex marriages, civil unions, or domestic partnerships regardless of state law or social acceptance of such unions. (Genesis 2:18-24, Leviticus 18:22, Matthew 19:5, Romans 1:24-28, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 7:2)
15. **WE BELIEVE** that legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Hence, sexual relations outside of marriage (referred to in the New Testament as "porneia"-- πορνεία) including but not limited to, adultery, premarital sex, homosexuality, and pedophilia are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible and the Church. Further, lascivious conduct, transgender behavior, and the creation, distribution or viewing of pornography, are incompatible with the Biblical witness. (Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 1 Timothy 1:9-11, Mark 9:42)