## DECLARATION OF FAITH

## We believe:

- 1. the Bible is the complete, verbally inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God. (II Tim. 3:16-17; II Peter 1: 20-21)
- 2. in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ (John 10:33); and His:
  - a. Virgin Birth (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:35);
  - b. sinless life (Heb. 4:15; 7:25);
  - c. miracles (John 2:11);
  - d. vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14); bodily resurrection (John 11:25);
  - e. ascension to the right hand of the Father (Acts 1:11), and
  - f. personal, imminent, premillennial return in power and glory (1 Thess. 4:16-17; Rev. 19:11-16)
- 3. there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Gen. 1:1; John 10:30; John 4:24; Isa. 48:16; 2 Cor. 13:14).
- 4. all men are sinful by nature and, as such, at enmity with God; therefore, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential to their salvation (Rom. 3:19).
- 5. men are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ and that only by God's grace and through faith alone are we saved (Acts 13:33-39).
- 6. Satan is a person and that hell is a place of eternal conscious punishment of all unsaved (Job 1:6-7; Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:14-15).
- 7. the Holy Spirit convicts of sin, makes believers children of God through the new birth, assuring them of heaven and by His indwelling enables Christians to live a Godly life (John 16:8; I Cor. 3:16; I Cor. 12:13).
- 8. in the eternal security of the believer (John 10:28-29)
- 9. the local church is composed of regenerated, immersed believers, voluntarily united together for the purpose of glorifying God through worship of Him, fellowship, equipping believers for spiritual growth, and the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ throughout the world (Acts 2:41-42; Matt. 28:19-20).
- 10. our Baptist distinctives are scripturally sound. They include:
  - a. the Bible as the supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice (II Tim. 3:16);
  - b. the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:36; I Cor. 12:3; Col. 1:17-18);
  - c. the competency of the individual soul in direct approach to God (I Tim. 2:1-2);
  - d. the priesthood of all believers (I Pet. 2:5);
  - e. a regenerate church membership (Acts 2:41-42);
  - f. the symbolic ordinances of Believer's Baptism (Immersion) and the Lord's Supper (Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-5; I Cor. 11:23-32);

- g. the autonomy of the local church (congregational government) and its fellowship with the other churches of like faith and practice (Eph. 1:22-23; I Tim. 3:1-15);
- h. the solemn obligation to majority rule within the church;
- i. the absolute separation of church and state (II Cor. 1:24; Matt. 23:10);
- j. and a world-wide program of missionary endeavor in obedience to the final command of our Lord (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20).
- 11. in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:28-29).
- 12. marriage has only one meaning and that is: marriage sanctioned by God, which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:24; Rom 7:2; I Cor. 7:10; Eph 5:22-23)
- 13. human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder and is not justified for any reason. (Job 3:16; Ps. 51:5; 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jer. 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44)
- 14. the Bible teaches that God existed before the universe and created all things in six sequential, 24-hour days. (Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11)