

SCHEDULE 1

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The following document is not to be considered as a creed of any kind, but simply an effort to set down what the Bible says about certain vital doctrines of the Christian Faith.

The Church of Christ Bassendean maintains the following position:

1. We believe in the one true and living God, in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, who is eternal, immortal, unchanging, sovereign, holy, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, dependent on none, righteous, just, faithful, truthful, good, loving, merciful, long-suffering, gracious, and personal.

Deuteronomy 6:4 Jeremiah 10:10 Matthew 28:19 1 Timothy 1:17
Malachi 3:6 1 Timothy 6:15-16 Revelation 4:8 1 John 3:20
Psalms 139:7-10 Acts 17:24-25 Psalm 145:17 Isaiah 30:18
Deuteronomy 7:9 Psalm 100:5 Exodus 34:6-7

2. We believe that God has revealed all that is necessary for salvation and life in the sixty-six books of the Holy Scriptures, which are the Word of God. All Scripture is inspired of God, and is infallible and inerrant, and is the final arbiter in all disputes. Its authority is derived from its Author and not from the opinions of men.

2 Timothy 3:15-17 2 Peter 1:20-21 1 Thess. 2:13

3. We believe that God created both the Heavens and the Earth and all things contained in them, both visible and invisible, from nothing. They were created by God and for God in six days, as recorded in Genesis 1 & 2, and they were created by God the Father through His eternal Son.

Exodus 20:11 Revelation 4:11 Isaiah 45:18 Hebrews 11:3
John 1:3 Colossians 1:15-16 Hebrews 1:1-2

4. We believe that God made the first humans, Adam and Eve, in His image, and He made them perfect, holy and upright. We believe that they fell from their original righteousness into sin and brought upon themselves and all their offspring death, condemnation and a sinful nature.

Matthew 19:4-5 Acts 17:24-26 Genesis 1:26,27,31 Genesis 3:1-19
Romans 3:23 Romans 5:12-19 1 Corinth. 15:22

5. Due to Adam and Eve's fall in Genesis 3, we believe it is utterly beyond the power of humans, to love God and to keep His laws. Nor is it possible for them to understand the Gospel, to repent of sin, and to trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, by themselves. Only through God is it possible.

Mark 10:26-27 John 6:44,65 Romans 8:6-8 1 Corinth. 2:14

6. We believe that God, before the foundation of the world, for His own glory, did elect men and women to eternal life as an act of free and sovereign grace, through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 13:48 Ephesians 1:3-6 1 Timothy 2:10 2 Timothy 1:8-10
1 Peter 1:1-2

7. We believe that God, out of great love for mankind, sent His Son into the world to save people from their sins, to reconcile them back to God, and to grant them eternal life. God's Son was conceived of the virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit, was both God and man, was born under Law, and lived a sinless life.

John 3:16 *1 Timothy 1:15* *Colossians 1:19-20* *Matthew 1:18-25*
John 1:1-18 *Galatians 4:4-5* *Hebrews 4:15* *2 Corinth. 5:21*

8. We believe that God's Son died upon a cross, bore our sins, and paid God's just penalty of death for them. He did this to save people from the consequences of their sins, and to bring about propitiation (atonement), justification, reconciliation, and redemption for them. God bore testimony to His acceptance of His Son's work by raising Him bodily from the dead.

Luke 23:33 *Isaiah 53:5-11* *1 Peter 2:24* *Romans 3:21-26*
Romans 4:25 *Romans 5:6-10* *Acts 3:14-15* *1 Corinth. 15:3-8*

9. We believe that only those ~~enabled by God~~, who repent of their sins, believe in Jesus Christ, confess Christ's name, and call upon His name to have mercy upon them, will be saved and be given the gift of eternal life.

Luke 24:46-47 *Acts 17:30-31* *Acts 16:30-31* *John 3:16*
Romans 10:9-13

10. We believe that only through Jesus Christ can a person be saved and have eternal life. They cannot save themselves by their own good works or through religious service; salvation is a free gift of God made possible through faith in Jesus Christ, and through God's grace and mercy.

John 14:6 *Acts 4:12* *Ephesians 2:4-9* *Titus 3:4-5*

11. We believe that after His bodily resurrection from the dead, the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to the right hand of the Father and is enthroned in glory, where He intercedes on behalf of His people and rules over all things.

Acts 2:32-33 *Romans 8:34* *Hebrews 7:25* *Hebrews 9:24*
Philippians 2:9-11 *Ephesians 1:22-23*

12. We believe that God has poured out the Holy Spirit to convict people of sin, righteousness and judgment to come, and to regenerate the sinner and draw him to repentance and faith in Christ the Saviour. Upon repentance of sin and faith toward Christ, the Holy Spirit causes a person to be born-again, and to become a new creation in Christ.

John 16:7-11 *Titus 3:5* *John 6:44* *John 3:3,5*
2 Corinth. 5:17

13. We believe that in the life of a born-again believer in Christ, the Holy Spirit leads them into all truth, sanctifies them to be like Christ, and endows them with spiritual gifts for ministry in the body of Christ. These gifts are always to be used in line with the teaching of the New Testament.

John 16:12-15 *2 Thess. 2:13* *1 Thess. 4:3* *Ephesians 4:11-13*

14. We believe that Christ has commanded all believers in Him to be baptised by immersion. He also commanded His followers to remember His death in the Lord's Supper when they meet together.

Matthew 28:19-20 Acts 2:38-42 1 Corinth. 11:23-26

15. We believe that Christ has commanded all believers to be His witnesses, sharing the Gospel with those about us so that others may come to believe in Him and be saved.

Matthew 28:19-20 Luke 24:46-48 Acts 1:8 2 Corinth. 5:18-20

16. We believe that all believers are to love one another as Christ loved the church, and to do all they can to maintain the unity and fellowship of the body.

John 13:34-35 John 17:20-23 Ephesians 4:1-6

17. We believe that the local church is under the authority of Christ alone. The communion of saints, however, requires recognition of and fellowship with other believers.

Colossians 1:18 Ephesians 1:22-23 1 Corinth. 12:12-14, 27

18. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ shall come again to raise the dead, both the righteous and unrighteous, and that the righteous shall enjoy everlasting life and the wicked will endure everlasting punishment.

We do not believe in the annihilation of the unrighteous.

Matthew 25:31-46 Acts 17:31 John 5:28-29 Revelation 20:11-15

19. We believe in the reality and personality of Satan, his desire to make war with God's children, and in his eventual punishment in the lake of fire forever.

Matthew 4:1-11 Revelation 12:13-17 Revelation 20:7-10

20. We do not uphold the aims or direction of any movements that do not hold to the overall authority and teachings of the Bible, which is the true Word of God.

Romans 16:17-18 2 Peter 2:1-2 2 Timothy 4:3-4

21. We believe that marriage is the union between a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life. We do not believe the Bible supports or endorses same-sex marriage. This is strongly forbidden.

Genesis 2:24 Matthew 19:4-6

22. We do not permit any person to be involved in the leadership of any church ministry, unless they repent of their sins and any sinful practices. This includes homosexuals and transgender people, and any others who are living contrary to the pattern Christ taught us. We also do not permit people of other faiths to be involved in the leadership of any church ministry, unless they turn from their previous faith(s) and become a follower of Jesus.

1 Corinth. 6:9-11 2 Corinth. 6:14-18 1 Thess. 1:9-10

23. We uphold the New Testament's teaching that male and female believers are joint heirs with Christ, but that a woman is not permitted to teach or exercise authority over a man within the ministries of the church.

1 Peter 3:7 Galatians 3:28 1 Corinth. 11:3 1 Timothy 2:9-14