

# Statement of Faith

## Buckingham Community Church, Inc.

### Statement of Faith

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Faith is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full-gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all biblical truth, only that it covers our need as it relates to fundamental doctrines and unity of faith.

### The Scriptures Inspired

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, a revelation from God to men, the infallible rule of faith and conduct, and superior to conscience and reason, but not contrary to reason (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 Pet. 1:23-25; Heb. 4:12).

### The One True God

The one true God (Yahweh, Elohyim) has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent, self-revealed "I AM," and has sent forth His Word and Spirit in order to express Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29; Isa. 43:10, 11; Matt. 28:19; John 16:5-15).

### Man's Fall and Redemption

Man was created good and upright, for God said, "Let us make man in our image and after our likeness." Man, by voluntary transgression, fell, and his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Gen. 1:26-31; Gen. 3:17; Ro. 5:12-21).

### The Salvation of Man

Salvation is offered by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. The Grace of God has appeared to all men and brings salvation through repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ. Man is saved by accepting the redemptive work of the Cross

and by accepting Jesus Christ as Savior. This process includes the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, as well as outward signs of sanctification unique to each believer. (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7; Ro. 10:9-15; Luke 24:47; 1 Thess. 4:3, 7; 2 Tim. 1:9).

## **Baptism in Water**

The ordinance of baptism by burial with Christ should be observed (as commanded in the Scriptures) by all that have repented of their sins and in their hearts have believed on Christ as their Savior and Lord. In doing so, they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they have also been raised to walk with Him in newness of life (Matt. 28:19; Ro. 6:4).

## **The Lord's Supper (Communion)**

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements, bread and fruit of the vine, is the symbol expressing our sharing in a memorial to His suffering and death, and a prophecy of His second coming, and is enjoined to all believers "until He comes" (John 6:48,51,53-57; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26).

## **The Promise of the Father**

All believers should ardently expect and earnestly seek the Promise of the Father, which is the baptism (immersion) in the Holy Spirit. With it comes the infilling of power for life and service, and the bestowment of the gifts (ministry, manifestation, motivational) and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31). These gifts are given for the purpose of accomplishing the personal and corporate purposes of God. This experience may be distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the New Birth (Acts 2:38; 8:15-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9).

## **The Church**

The Church is the primary agent of ministry, instruction and fellowship for believers. The Church (Body of Christ) finds expression through many separate, local congregations. (Acts 2:42-47; I Cor. 14:12; Eph. 4:4-6; I Thess. 2:4)

## **Ministry**

Divinely called and Scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two-fold purpose: (1) The evangelization of the world, and (2) The edification of the Body of Christ (Mark 16:15, 20; Eph. 4:11-16).

## **Divine Healing**

Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement of Christ and is the privilege of all believers (Isa. 53:4-5; Matt. 8:16-17; 10:8; Mark 16:18).

## **Eternity**

There is a literal heaven and a literal hell which are the eternal destinations of every person who has lived or will live. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter into heaven (Rev. 19:20; 20:10-15; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1).