

## **ACC Academy Statement of Faith 2024-25**

The Statement of Faith reflects ACC Academy's belief as it relates to faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline. Our Church and School Leadership have drafted and approved this statement in its entirety and have resolved that this is our firm position on how the Scripture is interpreted and applied. I agree to with the following and agree to my child being disciplined in alignment with the following:

### **Beliefs**

#### **The Bible**

We believe the Bible is God's Word to us in all that it teaches. We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the verbally inspired word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed. What the Bible says, God says. What the Bible implies, God implies.

#### **God**

We believe God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. There is one true Holy God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and equally possess all the attributes of deity and characteristics of personality. In the beginning, God created out of nothing the world and all the things therein.

#### **Jesus Christ**

We believe Jesus Christ is completely human but, at the same time, completely God. He is the only plan for bringing people who are far from God back into a right relationship with God. He lived a perfect life, so that He could be a substitution for us in satisfying God's demands for perfection. He defeated death in His resurrection so that we could have life.

#### **The Church**

We believe that the church, which is the body and bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons. We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. We believe in the autonomy of the local churches, free of any external authority and control. We recognize believer's baptism and the Lord's supper as scriptural means of testimony for the church.

#### **Salvation**

We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins.

#### **Eternity**

We believe man was created to exist forever. He will exist either eternally separated from God by sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is Heaven. Heaven and Hell are places of eternal existence.

## **Holy Spirit**

We believe The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

## **Human Beings**

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that through Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; man is totally depraved, and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition.

## **Practices**

### **Communion**

At Auburn Community Church, communion is central to our spiritual life. We understand communion not merely as a sacrament, but as the ongoing practice of abiding in a deep, loving union with our Heavenly Father. This profound relationship is secured through grace alone, a gift that we receive with humble gratitude (Ephesians 2:8-9). But communion also extends horizontally, binding us together as a spiritual family. Living in authentic community, we share life's joys and trials, following the early church's example of mutual love and support (Acts 2:42-47). Through this two-fold communion, with God and with each other, we aim to embody Christ's prayer that "they may be one as we are one" (John 17:11).

### **Transformation**

We believe that our journey with Christ is one of continual transformation, as we are gradually conformed to the image of Christ (Romans 8:29). This transformation, a renewal of the mind and heart, is the work of the Holy Spirit within us (Romans 12:2). It's not something we can achieve on our own, yet it requires our active participation (Phil 2:12-13). Through engaging in spiritual practices, cultivating a relationship with God, and living out our faith in everyday life, we cooperate with God's transformative work. In this way, we aim to embody the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and shine as lights in the world (Matthew 5:14-16).

### **Commission**

At Auburn Community Church, we recognize that each one of us has a unique role to play in the mission of God. Commission is our response to the call of Jesus to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). It involves being actively engaged in service, generosity, and sharing the message of Jesus with others. We believe that God has equipped each one of us with unique gifts, talents, and resources to be used for His glory, for the benefit of others, and the expansion of God's Kingdom (1 Peter 4:10). This means being willing to step out of our comfort zones with radical hospitality, to love and serve others selflessly, and to be ambassadors of Christ in the world. Commission is not just something we do; it is a way of life, a natural overflow of the transformation that has occurred in our hearts through a relationship with Jesus.