



Redding Christian Fellowship
Connection

From Pastor Rick

I recently came across a blog written by Frank Powell with an article he entitled, “9 Sins the Church is Surprisingly OK with as Long as You Love Jesus”. I will not list all 9 of the sins he listed but wish to share several that perhaps are especially pertinent to us at RCF at this point in time.

Powell referred to the Challenger disaster where a simple O-ring seal on one of the solid rocket boosters failed and caused the complete destruction of the shuttle, its payload, and its crew. That something so seemingly small and insignificant could lead to such drastic results is similar to how what some might consider insignificant in our lives, can bring about great ruin and hurt. One of the sins mentioned is the sin of fear. Is fear always sinful? No, fear can be a perfectly acceptable reaction to an imminent danger. But, why then would Scripture over 350 times exhort us with expressions like “Do not fear!”, or “Do not be afraid”! It is because fear can reveal a lack of trust in God. I John 4:18 reads, “Perfect love casts out fear”! If my son were to be fearful of me or of my care for him, I would feel insulted and hurt. After all, do I not have his best interests at heart? Why should he fear me? Now if I was abusive or mean spirited, that would be another matter. Similarly, our fears can reveal a lack of love for, or trust in God.

For us at RCF, this is a season of change. With a new pastor, there will be some changes. Are we afraid of them? Will we resist them? As I have observed our search committee at work and constantly come to prayerful and unanimous decisions, and as I see how our elder board seeks the mind and will of God in the ministries of our congregation, I believe I can truthfully declare that I am not afraid. I earnestly pray that you will make the same declaration. With Jesus Christ, our Ultimate Head, how can we fail?

Instead of fear, let us determine to love and trust our Lord, our leadership, and thereby cast out all fears that our enemy might wish to use to paralyze us.

A second sin is worry. Seems to me that worry is a close relative of fear for worry too, like fear, reflects a lack of faith or trust. Jesus spoke strongly against worry and pointed out the futility and real foolishness of it all. Are you worried about your future or about the future of RCF? Just as a rocking chair gives you something to do but gets you nowhere, so worry is an exercise in futility. Corrie Ten Boom said that “worry is carrying tomorrow’s load with today’s strength—carrying two days at once. Worrying does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows; it empties today of its strength.” Scripture states that we ought not to be anxious for anything, but to give our requests and concerns to God in supplications and prayers.

A third sin Frank Powell talks about is comfort. We prefer that things remain the way they are. Powell writes that when Christianity becomes comfortable, the Church begins to die. We all like the status quo and resist change. We like things to be the way we are used to them being. But, we cannot be missional in our focus and remain comfortable. An organism cannot remain static. It defies nature and God’s order of things. The Church is a living organism!

What are some of the signs that we are guilty of the sin of comfort? One indication I have observed over the years is that when secondary issues become major issues, it is likely that the sin of comfort is at the root.

Also, when we become preoccupied with serving ourselves rather than focusing on outreach, we need to watch out! I also have observed that when our comfort is challenged, we not only get upset but sometimes get very angry and defensive. May that never be true at RCF!

God has given us a beautiful spirit and gracious attitude towards one another. May it continue as a testimony to our love for God and each other and our common commitment to Him, to each other, and also importantly to our community. Let us fervently pray for the future days at Redding Christian Fellowship. If we are guilty of the sins of fear, worry, or comfort, may we repent of them!

The greatest example

How often we quote Leviticus 19:18: “*Love your neighbor as yourself.*” It’s not a bad standard to reach for; even Jesus repeated it (see Matthew 22:39 and elsewhere). But in John 13:34, as Bible scholar Dr. Harry Wendt points out, Jesus changes the wording slightly but crucially: “*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*” (ESV).

Perhaps during his time on earth, Jesus realized humans don’t actually love ourselves very much or very well. So using self-love as the bar by which to measure neighbor-love might be ineffective. Although we may act self-enamored and self-impressed, it’s often just a cover for inner feelings of self-loathing and self-doubt.

After washing his disciples’ feet and before sacrificing his very life for them (and us), Jesus changes the wording — and the example that will lead us: “Love one another not as you love you, but as I love you.” Unconditionally. Unreservedly. Wholeheartedly. Unto death. And into life everlasting.

Ministerial Staff:

- Rick Penner**
Church Administration
- Ron Mapes**
Church Ministries
- Jerry Mapes**
Worship & Missions
- Jeff Lange**
Young Families & High School
- Caleb Little**
Middle School & IMPACT
- Tom Bryant**
Young Adults & IT Tech
- Sharon Greene**
Women’s Ministry Director

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For me July has been a month to take a deep breath and look back with an eye on the future. At the time I'm writing this newsletter we are still without a senior pastor but we are optimistic that we may have one in the near future. I believe it's an exciting time at RCF.

I've been trying to finish up a few projects that never seem to get done as it always seems to be extremely busy here on campus. I want to thank all those who came and helped me with our music Library. It's an overwhelming job for one person to keep on top of all the filing and tracking of our music. It's been long overdue. Thanks for all your help.

I know this time of year most of us are thinking about the fading days of summer, or possibly the last few trips away we might still be taking. During the month of July

I'm thinking, snow, Christmas trees, Christmas decorations, and music. Lots of Christmas music. I turn the AC down and close the blinds to create the winter feel and let my mind take me to December. It works. Our Christmas production is coming together. "A Classic Christmas Noel" will be premiered to our RCF Choir and Orchestra in September. Production dates are already set - December 7th through the 10th. I think you are going to really enjoy this one. Choir starts back on Wednesday September 14th at 6:30 in the auditorium. Please feel free to join us. You can get more information by calling the church office and asking for me.



We are so blessed by our faithful missionaries. We have many young families, some just starting on their ministry careers and some that have been in the field a bit longer. We also have several couples celebrating over 50 years of ministry. This year GV and Mariamma Mathai with India Evangelical Missions and Chuck and Charla Pereau with Foundation for His Ministry have been serving the Lord continually for the past 50 years. RCF has been financial partners of these two ministries for over 25 years.



We are so blessed to be a small part of these ministries. The Pereau's will be with us the first weekend in August. We'll have an opportunity to celebrate them and the wonderful ministry God led them to build in Mexico. The Mathai's were honored in a wonderful celebration at their home church in Los Angeles this past month. Dr. Mathai also received a Life time achievement award from

Biola University Alumni this past March.

Some upcoming missionary events:

- Chuck and Charla Pereau, Sunday, August 7th, 9 & 11.
- Peter and Mary Jean Kopp August 14th 9 and 11.
- Mission emphasis weekend October 1st and 2nd.



The Wiesner's are our missionaries in Malaysia. They are involved in church planting and operating a school which delivers quality education for local and international children in Malaysia. They have students from China to Kenya. They currently have 12 students confirmed for the upcoming school year. Please pray they reach their goal of 20 students.

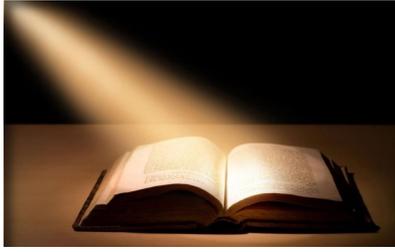
The Community Church there is currently studying the Book of Acts. Russell recently gave the update below: *Last Sunday I preached from Acts 5 at our community church plant. We are encouraged to see the growth in depth and reverence for God's Word. Next Sunday we will have a fellowship dinner to appreciate and celebrate our time together as the school semester ends and some in our fellowship will be away for the summer. May God continue to grow what He started and may our church continue to reach out into the community here in Kuala Lumpur.*

Prayer Request

Pray for a family from Japan who came to Family Fun Day. This little girl's mother is a believer and she said to us, "We wish to put our children in your school, but my husband's job in Malaysia has become unstable. We may have to go back to Japan. Please pray for us that we can stay in Malaysia and our kids can go to your school."

We pray that they can stay and receive a quality education from a biblical worldview from godly teachers. It's more than education; its discipleship and living in community with people who need the good news!

WHICH VERSION OF THE BIBLE IS THE BEST ONE?



Ever wondered about that question? It used to be so easy! Bookstores carried pretty much one Bible. That was the King James Version. We memorized verses from it and we were familiar with it. Then something changed. Paraphrases, new translations, study Bibles, -- all started appearing in book stores. What to do now? Is one translation of the Bible better than others? How can we determine if that is so?

First, here are some general tips to bear in mind.

1. Virtually every Bible you can buy today is a translation from manuscripts written in Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. The intent or focus of these translations varies but we should not select a traditional Bible translation with the belief that it is somehow more God approved than another. As the years go by, manuscripts are being discovered that are older and therefore closer to the original manuscripts. It is logical that the older the manuscript being used, the more accurate it will be. Repeated copying increases the likelihood (remarkably minimal in the case of the Scriptures) of scribal errors.
2. The “right” Bible for you depends somewhat on the usage you make of it. If you are a teacher, a good study Bible with concordances, good footnotes, and maps would be very helpful. Bear in mind though that footnotes are the opinions of an editorial committee or of some well known Bible teacher. These footnotes are no more inspired than the dates featured in years past at the top of KJV Bibles. But they can be very helpful in providing background or explanatory information. If you wish to give a Bible to a friend who is not biblically literate at all, a modern paraphrase might be more helpful for that person.
3. Whatever version, translation or paraphrase you possess - please use it! Don’t let it gather dust and do not let it be a coffee table ornament.

What are the various kinds of Bibles?

Literal, word for word translations. Probably the best example is the NASB. The scholars who helped to produce this Bible were seeking to translate the original words from the best manuscripts these men possessed, into English. Accuracy and faithfulness to the original texts were the focal points. A drawback in this approach is that the NASB is not as readable as other translations. It sounds mechanical or wooden at times. But it is probably the very best translation to use for study. The KJV is also an example of a word for word translation. The scholars in 1611 used the very best manuscripts and texts that were known at the time to provide an English language Bible.

Thought for thought translations. The most recent NIV Bible is a good example of this kind of translation. The NIV seeks to take thoughts and concepts and translate them into English. It is based on the careful research of a strong committee of dedicated scholars. It is more readable and makes for a fine pulpit Bible. An example of the “thought for thought” concept is when Scripture makes a statement about “brothers” or “men”. Often the intent is clearly not gender related at all. The authors surely meant to include women as well. The NIV thus takes the liberty of translating “brothers” by inserting the words, “and sisters” assuming (and in these cases surely correctly) that the author meant to include both genders. In my view this tends to lead us into subjective territory and causes me some unease. It is easy to determine an author’s intent much of the time. What happens when it is not so clear? We make an assumption or a judgment. What if we assume incorrectly? I have some discomfort with a thought for thought translation for this reason.

Bibles that are a paraphrase. This kind of Bible makes no attempt to be close to, or to be a specific translation from a manuscript. Its intent is not to be literally accurate in translating a text. It is also not particularly designed for public worship and readability. We could say its intent is usability. A paraphrase is an interpretative rendition of concepts and stories. Usually a paraphrase is the work of a single author or scholar. Ken Taylor developed the Living Bible series when he tried to read the Bible to his children. Today there are many paraphrases. I like the Message by Eugene Peterson. He states that in the course of teaching the Bible he sometimes felt that his students were not catching the vitality of Scripture. The Message was his attempt to bring Scripture to life. I do not think it is a good idea to use a paraphrase as an exclusive teaching Bible. It can be very helpful however, to read alongside a translation of the Bible. You might get a fresh look at Scripture by using a paraphrase just as Peterson’s students did.

All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16



**Friendship
Utmost Authenticity
Encouragement
Lasting Integrity**

FUEL provides a great opportunity to meet the men of RCF. We enjoy a great home cooked breakfast, (there is always plenty to eat) we spend a little time in worship and share some time around the Word of God. Invest in a relationship with men who will encourage you, support you, pray for you and share some good times. Bring a Friend!

FIRST FUEL OF THE FALL SEASON!

**Guest Speaker: Jim Boetjer
Area Director N. CA Coalition
for Men's Discipleship
MAN IN THE MIRROR**

**Saturday, Sept. 24, 8 A.M.
Advance Tickets—\$4.00
At the door—\$5.00**



**Sat. August 27, 9:30a.m.
& Sat. Sept 24, 9:30a.m
Following FUEL**

Meet in the Church parking lot for a short safety talk, a word of prayer and the ride route. Invite a friend, maybe someone who doesn't have a church home so you can introduce them to the Fellowship. Watch the weekly Worship Folder for details on the rides.



**Men's Small
Group Bible Study**

Fall is a great time to get started. You are invited to become a part of a life-changing experience. Men's Small Group Bible Studies is a great place to deepen your relationship with the Lord, get a firmer grasp on Biblical principles for relationships, home life, and business. If you are serious about developing a heart that is *AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART* then contact Ron Mapes @ ron@rcfellowship.org or call 222-3425 and he'll help you get connected.

A CALL TO PRAYER

II Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people ..."



September 11th, 2001 - Over 3,000 senselessly murdered by fanatic Muslim Terrorists.

If my people, who are called by my name ... "

August 29th, 2005 - Category 5 Hurricane Katrina, death toll at 1,302

If my people, who are called by my name, are sorry for what they have done ... "

September 29th, 2008 - Dow Jones average drops 777 points, as a result of credit crisis and subprime mortgage meltdown. - *"If my people, who are called by my name, are sorry for what they have done, if they pray and obey me ... "*

Fort Hood Massacre: 12 dead, 31 wounded.

Sandy Hook Elementary School murders: 26 dead.

If my people, who are called by my name, are sorry for what they have done, if they pray and obey me, and stop their evil ways, I will hear from heaven ... "

June 26th, 2015 - U.S. Supreme Court rules that same-sex couples can marry nationwide.

If my people, who are called by my name, are sorry for what they have done, if they pray and obey me, and stop their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, I will forgive their sin ... "

5 United States Marines killed at Tennessee recruiting center by a Muslim gunman ...

10 people killed, 9 injured at Oregon's Umpqua Community College ...

San Bernardino ISIS shooting kills 14, 21 injured ...

50 killed by ISIS sympathizer in Orlando, 53 wounded ...

5 Dallas police officers shot dead ...

3 police officers shot dead in Baton Rouge ...

"If my people, who are called by my name, are sorry for what they have done, if they pray and obey me, and stop their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, I will forgive their sin, and I will heal their land"

Are we ready to pray now?

- **Mark your calendar for Wednesday, August 31st @ 7 p.m., for an All Church Prayer**
- **Meeting at RCF. Please join us every Thursday at noon in the main sanctuary.**

Sharon's Sharing...



In the blink of an eye our summer will be over! However, while we personally may be enjoying a slower pace with family, friends and vacations, our RCF Calendars are rapidly filling up with events and activities, ready to unfold in the very near future. You will want to read what's on the Horizon, for WIM and save time for these opportunities and dates that are briefly described below! Please prayerfully consider (a touch of Ms. Linda there!) which of these activities and events fit into your gifts and needs, and jump onboard , because this ship filled with friends will be underway and you won't want to MISS OUT!!

NEW WIM Ministries and Opportunities:

- **Impacting Generations:** a new ministry for our RCF women is in process of being launched and we're looking for those who desire to be either mentors or gleaners. (I Tim 5: 2-3; Titus 2:1 model)
- If you are a woman in your mid 20's to late 40's and would love to connect with the wisdom and life experiences of another woman in her 70-80's , this new program is for YOU BOTH !! There are some RICH spiritual and life experiences that can be shared between the generations that can definitely impact our own lives, as well as our families. Many women have expressed that they do not have mothers, mentors or daughters living (or living nearby) and would benefit from this opportunity to share in another's life. (Similar to IMPACT programs you're familiar with, only Woman to Woman) Let me, or Sue Penner (via church office) know of your interest and we will match you with a connection partner.
- OUR TLC / "Take them a Meal" program is still in GREAT need of RCF members who would be willing to provide (make or purchase) a meal to deliver to those who are recovering from illness, surgeries, or family additions, interruptions or emergencies . IF you would be willing to be on our Call/ Email notification list to periodically provide a meal for these needs please sign up at WIM information table in Foyer on Sundays or notify LIZ at church office. THIS MINISTRY BLESSES BOTH BODY AND SOUL and is a wonderful encouragement to RCF Families as we invest our time and energies during their time of need. Many hands make light work, won't you participate?

Upcoming Events:

- **Sept. 17th is a Shasta County Women's Shared Church Event:** VCF will be hosting a full day event for BETH MOORE SIMULCAST (Paramount to our Priscilla Shirer Simulcast last May) Several from RCF are planning to attend! Tickets are currently on sale through "Event Brite" (or via Sharon) at EB pricing, @ \$20.00 ONLY till

August 15th . IF tickets are not sold out, price increases to \$30.00. Lunch is provided.

- THIS SIMULCAST EVENT WILL ALSO BE OUR "CITY WIDE SPRING CONFERENCE" PROMO/ KICK OFF, for APRIL 28 -29, 2017 featuring incredible author and speaker Jennifer Rothschild LIVE, along with popular worship and speaking teams! I have 100 early bird tickets on sale at only \$34.00 each. available Sept 17th , and until gone !! (which will be FAST). A conference of this magnitude (estimated attendance 1000 ladies) rarely comes to Redding, and we truly expect to sell out several months in advance. After 100 E.B. Tickets sell, registration cost rises to \$40.00 per ticket . Check out FRESH GROUNDED FAITH.COM for more details and plan to save the date and the price of admission . THERE WILL BE 2 tickets given away by drawing, to those in attendance at VCF on 9/17, but for the rest of us eager to participate in this amazing event....Don't wait to register !! It's our BIG Women's Event for 2017.....you might remember from our Sharon Jaynes conference in 2015, that women came from as far away as Ohio ! Ya'll won't want to miss out (as Jennifer draws!)
- "PRAY America" opportunities at RCF. Watch for announcements in bulletin to gather together in a posture and attitude of (non politically influenced) prayer for our church, our community and our nation! There is nothing better that we can do to encourage change in our world than to PRAY. Also, RCF will be participating in "CRY OUT" a FREE simulcast on Sept 23rd from 7-9pm in the main auditorium . Led by REVIVE OUR HEARTS MINISTRY, AND hosted by men and women's ministries, an opportunity to CRY OUT to God for the upcoming elections and our Leaders.

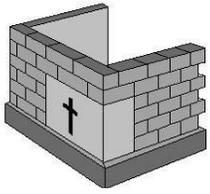
Upcoming Registrations:

- August 7 between services, begins registration for Tuesday Am/Pm Bible Studies. Morning studies will be assigned to studies and groups on a first come basis. Participant guides range in cost from \$18.00-20.00
- August 27 Begins Early Bird Registration for WIM Fall Retreat Tsasdi Resort!

SOOOO much to note, I realize, but I truly hope that amongst these many upcoming choices you will find one or more ways to connect with others to grow, serve and PRAY! We can't just HOPE for change in this world, we must BE the change, by standing firm on biblical truths, trusting in God's guidance and serving Him where we are called! I'm continually in prayer for each of our women and seeking to learn more ways to bless and serve alongside them! I look forward to meeting you at the information tables, weekly beginning Aug. 7th to answer questions or to help you plug into a few of these ministry opportunities! Until next time.....

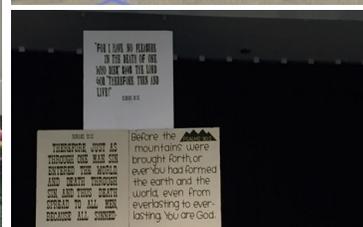
In His Matchless Grace,

Sharon



Cornerstone Kids Ministry

Building a foundation for a life-long relationship with Jesus.



Those listed below are or have been ill or in the hospital, recuperating at home, have lost a loved one or welcomed a new little one into their family. Whatever their present situation, prayer is powerful and much appreciated. Let's lift them up in prayer.



Illnesses

Judy Addison	Ed Fishburn	Greg Negrete
Bob Birch	Rick Freier	Mary Olsen
Margaret Brady	Judy Gama-Strausser	Kathy Roberts
Doris Butler	Louis & Donleita Gerdes	Ed Robertson
Jody Charbonneau	Darlene Idehara	Kati Rosten
Shirley Coker	Susan Lay	Harold Rothenberger
Mary Doboyné	June Lee	Barb Spellman
	Laurie Lemon	Debbie Walters
		Barbara Wiedenhoef

Deaths

Golda Bauchman
Marjorie Snyder
Jim Luther

Births

Abigail Ruth Williamson

ATTENDANCE AND GENERAL FUND GIVING

Celebration

	<u>1st / 2nd</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Giving</u>
6/5/16.....	398/369.....	767.....	\$23,290.96
6/12/16.....	502/Lake Day..	502.....	\$12,352.42
6/19/16.....	444/313.....	757.....	\$13,351.00
6/26/16.....	403/209.....	696.....	\$12,722.50
7/3/16.....	366/354.....	720.....	\$19,701.35
7/10/16.....	353/339.....	692.....	\$15,684.10
7/17/16.....	375/316.....	691.....	\$13,265.42
7/24/16.....	359/295.....	654.....	\$ 9629.73

Upcoming Fall Bible Studies:

- **Precepts:** Ephesians - Begins Wednesday, Sept 7th @ 12:30pm in the C-2. Sign up in the foyer to reserve a book (\$15). Call Candy Neeley with questions at 356-2225
- **Precepts:** Luke - Part 2 "The Savior of Sinners"- Begins Tuesday, Sept 13th @ 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, contact Pat Gardetto at peanutgardetto@att.net
- **Divorce Care:** A 13 week Christ centered program helping those going thru separation or divorce. Begins Wednesday, August 24 @ 6pm in C2. If you have any questions, please contact Pam @ 222-1445 or Nancy @ 549-4206.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report – Below you will see the fiscal year to date (June) financial status of RCF. The Elder Board would like to keep the congregation better informed on the financial status of the church and the various projects that are ongoing at RCF. This will be published once a month and you are welcome to address any questions or concerns by contacting the church office.

As of June 30:

Fund:	
General fund giving	\$750,034
Operating expenses:	\$705,026
Missions giving	\$154,400
Missionary funds disbursed:	\$142,670



P.E.P - People Enjoying People

•People Enjoying People•



MOVIE MATINEE

Thursday, August 11
1:00 P.M.

East Building Chapel

Great Movie, Good Friends and Free ICE CREAM

SUNDAES!!!

Please sign up!



Join us **Thursday, Sept. 15 at 8:00 am** to Carpool for a Day Trip to Woodland CA for the

Woodland Museum of Biblical Archaeology

Lunch at **Ludy's Main Street BBQ** then the California Agriculture Museum



COSTS:

Biblical Museum: donation

Ludy's: order from the menu

CA Ag Museum: \$6.00

Please sign up at the Information Desk and pick up an information sheet.



**REDDING CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP**

2157 Victor Avenue
Redding, CA 96002

OUR ELDERS

Dave Brumit
Duane Helle (chairman)
John Kelley
John Chelonis
Troy Foster (Elder in Training)

Nate Molter
Bruce Schlange

OUR DEACONS

Dan Conklin
Dave Donarico
Dennis Hale
Bill Hawes (chairman)

Dan Londen
Dean Peterson
Gary Kalsbeek
George Rhoderick

CONTACT US:

Phone: 530-222-3425
Fax: 530-222-3490
www.rcfellowship.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Celebration Services - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Main Auditorium

VISION STATEMENT

We are all pilgrims engaged in a journey of evangelism and discipleship, where worship is complete and teaching is a guided discovery of the Truth. We will devote ourselves to our families and to each other across generational and traditional lines. We will commit ourselves to our community with integrity of character as ministers of mercy.

MISSION STATEMENT

Redding Christian Fellowship is a loving family of believers dedicated to Worship, Instruction, Fellowship, and Evangelism with the purpose of developing devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

God is the true and living God who revealed Himself through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. We accept the Bible as God's infallible Word and our only rule of faith and practice.

We accept Jesus Christ as God's divine Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit, virgin born, who died on the cross as the substitutional sacrifice for our sin. He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven where He is now our interceding Priest. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Man was created in the image of God but fell into sin. We have all sinned in our own right and need a Savior to save us from the penalty of our sins.

Salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Human Sexuality: Legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Marriage is a profound spiritual institution established by God. This church recognizes marriage as exclusively the legal union of one man and one woman in which such union is a lifetime commitment.

The church is a body of believers, who, by the influence of the Holy Spirit, were baptized into one body.