

Hanover Community Church Tenets of Faith

We accept the Holy Scriptures as the revealed will of God, the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice for the purpose of maintaining general unity. We adopt the following as a basic statement of fundamental truths:

1. The Scripture Inspired – The Bible is the inspired Word of God, a revelation from God to man, the infallible rule of faith and conduct, and it is superior to conscience and reason, but not contrary to reason. (II Timothy 3:15-17; I Peter 1:23-25; Hebrew 4:12)

2. The One, True God – The one, true God, creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally self-existent, self-revealed, “I Am” and has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association; i.e., as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Mark 12:29; John 10:30; Acts 5:3-4)

3. Jesus Christ – Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the virgin Mary. He died on the cross, a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Advocate. (Isaiah 53:5-6; Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:1,14; Acts 1:9-11; I Corinthians 15:2-8; II Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-7; Hebrews 4:14; I Peter 2:24; I John 2:1-2)

4. The Holy Spirit – The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord, Jesus Christ; and during this age, to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct, and empower the believer for godly living and service. (John 3:5; 14:16-17; 16:8-14; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:11)

5. Man, His Fall and Redemption – Man was created good and upright, for God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” But man, by voluntary transgression, fell and his only hope of redemption is in Jesus, the Son of God. (Genesis 1:26-31; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21)

6. The Salvation of Man -

a. Conditions to Salvation – The grace of God, which bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men, through the preaching of repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord, Jesus Christ. Man is saved by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, and being justified by grace through faith, he becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. (Titus 2:11; 3:5-7; Romans 10:13-15; Luke 24:47)

b. The Evidence of Salvation – The inward evidence to the believer of his salvation is the direct witness of the Holy Spirit. The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness. (Romans 8:16)

7. Baptism in Water – The ordinance of baptism by a burial with Christ should be observed as commanded in the Scriptures by all who have repented and in their hearts have truly believed on Christ as Savior and Lord. In so doing, they declare to the world that they have died with Jesus and that they have also been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; Romans 6:4)

8. The Lord's Supper – The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements, bread and the fruit of the vine, is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord, Jesus Christ, a memorial of His suffering and death and a prophecy of His second coming, and is enjoined on all believers until He comes. (John 6:48,51,53,57; Luke 22:19-20; II Peter 1:4; I Corinthians 1:28)

9. Sanctification – The Scriptures teach a life of holiness (spiritual health) without which no man shall see the Lord. By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." Entire sanctification is the will of God for all believers, and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word. (Hebrews 12:14; I Peter 1:15-16; I Thessalonians 5:23-24; I John 2:6; Romans 8:3-4)

10. The Church – The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her Great Commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit is an integral part of the Church of the Firstborn, which is written in Heaven. (Ephesians 1:22; 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; I Corinthians 12:12)

11. Ministry and Evangelism – A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two-fold purpose: 1) the edifying of the Body of Christ, and 2) the evangelization of the world. (Mark 16:15-20; Ephesians 4:11-13)

12. The Blessed Hope – The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation, together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, is imminent and is the blessed hope of the Church. (I Thessalonians 4:16-18; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13)

13. The Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ – The revelation of the Lord, Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of the national Israel, the millennial reign of Jesus Christ on the earth is the scriptural promise and the world's hope. (I Thessalonians 1:7; Revelation 19:11-16; Romans 11:25,27; Revelation 20:1-7)

14. The Lake of Fire – The devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, and whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life shall be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake, which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. (Revelation 19:20; 20:10)

If you have any questions regarding what we believe, please do not hesitate to call on us. We would be most happy to give full explanation to the best of our ability.