

Statement of Faith

...is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. – **Hebrews 11:1**

In matters of doctrine and belief, Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church strives for three things: in essential matters, unity; in non-essential matters, liberty; in all things, Christian love.

Essentials We Believe

1. **About God.** God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are equal and are one God.
2. **About God the Father.** God is all knowing, all powerful, and all loving. Fatherhood denotes spiritual relationship: first, within the Trinity; second, within mankind, creatively in relation to all people, but spiritually only in relation to those who have been saved by His grace from their sin and come to Him through Jesus Christ. James 1:17; Genesis 1:26, 27; Genesis 3:22; Psalm 90; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 12:14.
3. **About Jesus Christ.** Jesus Christ is the one and only virgin born Son of God. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.
4. **About the Holy Spirit.** The Holy Spirit is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in following God's will. He gives every believer spiritual gifts to do God's will. As Christians, we seek to live under His control daily.
5. **About the Bible.** The Bible is God's Word to mankind. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the source of truth for Christian beliefs and living.
6. **About People.** Man was created by God, in His image, for the purpose of fellowship with God and glory for God. Man was tempted by Satan and sinned, and because of this, all men have been born in sin since that time. Every person is marred by a nature of rebellion and disobedience toward God which the Bible calls sin. Sin separates us from God, others, and all good things. All persons need to be saved from their sin.
7. **About Salvation.** Salvation is God's free gift to us, but each person must receive it individually by repenting from a self-ruled (sinful) life and turning to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus in faith we are saved. However, that salvation evidences itself in good works because of our love for God and all people.
8. **About the Church.** The church is comprised of all Christians throughout the world with Christ as the Head. Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church is a local body of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ observing the two sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.