

STATEMENT OF FAITH
FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
LA GRANDE, OR

The following statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the following statement of faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible, and therefore, is binding upon all members.

1. We believe in the plenary verbal inspiration and inerrancy of the whole Bible as originally written and that the Bible is the all sufficient rule of faith and practice. (Psalm 119:160; II Timothy 3:16-17)
2. We believe in three distinct persons in the triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, equal in divine perfection. (Matthew 28:19; Romans 1:20)
3. We believe in the genesis account of creation. (Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:2)
4. We believe that Satan is a fallen angel, the archenemy of God and man, the unholy god of this world and that his destiny is the eternal lake of fire. (Isaiah 4:12-15; Ezekiel 26:11-19; Matthew 25:41; II Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 6:10-17; Revelation 20:10)
5. We believe in the virgin birth and humanity of Jesus Christ. (Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 7:14)
6. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ. (John 10:30; Hebrews 1:8, 9)
7. We believe the Holy Spirit is the divine administrator for Jesus Christ in His churches. (Luke 24:49; John 14:16, 17; John 16:13; Acts 1:4, 5, 8)
8. We believe that miraculous spiritual gifts were done away when the Bible was completed and that three spiritual gifts remain: faith, hope and charity (love). (I Corinthians 13:8-13; Ephesians 4:7-14)
9. We believe that man was created in the image of God and lived in innocency until he fell by voluntary transgression from his sinless state, the result being that all mankind are now sinners. (Genesis 1:26; Genesis 3:6-24; Romans 5:12, 19)
10. We believe that the suffering and death of Jesus Christ was substitutionary, sufficient and efficient for all mankind and reject Calvinism and Arminianism. (Isaiah 53:6; Hebrews 2:9; I Peter 3:18; II Peter 3:9; I John 2:2)
11. We believe in the premillennial, personal, bodily return of Jesus Christ as the crowning event of the Gentile age. This event will include the resurrection of the righteous and the marriage of Christ to His Bride the Church and the millennial will be followed by the resurrection of the unrighteous into eternal punishment in the lake of fire. (John 14:1-6; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; II Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 19; Revelation 29:4-6; Revelation 20:11-15; Revelation 21:8)

12. We believe that the depraved alien sinner is saved wholly by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and the requisites to regeneration are repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 13:3-5; John 3:16-18; Acts 20:21; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9) and that the Holy Spirit convicts, regenerates, seals, secures and indwells every believer. (John 3:6; John 16:8, 9; Romans 8:9-11; I Corinthians 6:19, 20; Ephesians 4:30; Titus 3:5)

13. We believe that all who trust Jesus Christ for salvation are eternally secure and will persevere in Him and will not perish. (John 3:36; John 5:24; John 10:27-30; Romans 8:35-39; Hebrews 10:39; I Peter 1:5)

14. We believe that God deals with believers as His children, that He chastises the disobedient and that He rewards the obedient. (Matthew 16:27; Matthew 25:14-23; John 1:12; Hebrews 12:5-11; II John 8; Revelation 22:12)

15. We believe that Jesus Christ established His church during His ministry on earth and that it always is a local, visible assembly of scripturally baptized believers meeting together in covenant relationship to carry out the commission of the Lord Jesus Christ and each church is an independent self-governing body, and no other ecclesiastical body may exercise authority over her. She is not to be confused with the family of God consisting of all the saved (Ephesians 3:15). We believe that Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission to New Testament churches only, and that He promised the perpetuity of His churches. (Matthew 4:18-22; Matthew 16:18; Matthew 18:15-18; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 1:14-20; John 1:35-51; Ephesians 3:21)

16. We believe that there are two pictorial ordinances in the Lord's churches: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Scriptural baptism is the immersion of penitent believers in water by the authority of a scriptural New Testament Church in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and administered by a scripturally ordained minister. The Lord's Supper is a memorial ordinance, restricted to the member of the church observing the ordinance. The elements of which are to be the unfermented fruit of the vine and the unleavened bread, which picture His shed blood and broken body. No church holding universal church theory, practicing or receiving alien immersion, open communion, or not holding perpetuity to the personal ministry of Christ has the authority to administer these ordinances. It is the New Testament order for an ordained minister to administer the ordinances of the Gospel. (Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 8:12, 38; Romans 6:4; I Corinthians 11:1, 2; I Corinthians 11:17-20, 26)

17. We believe that there are two divinely appointed offices in a church, pastors and deacons, to be filled by men whose qualifications are set forth in Titus and Timothy. These men shall not have more than one woman in marriage as long as she lives.

18. We believe in the separation of church and state (Matthew 22:21) and affirm our belief in civil obedience. (Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-15)

19. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, pedophilia, fornication, adultery and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids and attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance. (Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 19:5, 13; Genesis 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Matthew 5:28; Romans 1:24-29; I Corinthians 5:1; I Corinthians 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4)

20. We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman in covenant relationship. We reject any attempt to redefine marriage as a union between people of the same sex or as between more than one man and one woman. We believe God hates divorce and intends for marriage to last until one of the spouses die. Although divorced and remarried persons may hold positions of service in the church and be greatly used of God, they are disqualified for the offices of pastor or deacon. (Genesis 2:18-25; Malachi 2:14-17; Matthew 5:31-32; Mark 10:2-12; Romans 7:2-3; I Timothy 3:2, 12)

21. We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of the unborn human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortion of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable. (Job 3:16; Job 31:15; Psalm 139:14-16; Proverbs 6:16-17; Isaiah 44:24; Isaiah 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5; Jeremiah 20:15-18; Luke 1:44)