

# LAKEVILLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## Statement of Faith

[The 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith](#)

[The Cambridge Declaration](#)

[Biblical Confession for Uniting Church and Family](#)

## I. The Love of God:

"We love Him because He first loved us."

I John 4.19

In Worship; "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers." (Acts 2.42) The biblical record has set the standard for expressing our love for God in worship. Where God's Word is faithfully proclaimed, God's people need no other incentive to gather there. We take care that worship does not become a forum for self-expression, but for self-examination. Sunday worship at LCF focuses only on the Word of God, the sacraments of God, the praises and prayers of the faithful, and the fellowship of His people.

In Song; "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Colossians 3.16) We sing together those traditional and modern hymns and choruses that reflect the truth of Scripture and the honorable deportment of the believer. For love "does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; (I Corinthians 13.6)"

As Families; "But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you."(Genesis 6.18) It was always God's design for His people to walk with Him together as families. We have provided a place where parents and their children may worship together. God saved Noah with his sons. Both generations endured the trial of the ark together, and they received the blessing of their salvation together. The only enticement offered to the sons to remain with their parents was the vast devastation that they could see when they opened the ark's window. If we desire our children to walk with God they must first be content to walk beside us.

## II. The Word of God:

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." John 17.17

In Preaching: "[God] has in due time manifested His word through preaching..." (Titus 1.3) Biblical preaching is the modern day manifestation of God speaking to men. It is the principle part of corporate worship. Preaching is the power of God unto salvation. The preacher must not only instruct and educate, but convince, rebuke, and exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching (II Timothy 4.2). It is our fervent belief that God's word can never hurt God's people. Effective proclamation and thorough exposition of the Word must never be rushed or supplanted by any other activity.

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In Teaching: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28.19, 20) Our goal is that the whole counsel of God reaches all the people of God. The morning worship service is directed specifically to the entire family. We meet weekly for Bible study where parents and children gather for praise and worship. The format here is informal biblical instruction, and is usually a time of open discussion, practical concerns, and commentary on current events.

## III. The Plan of God:

Glorification: Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that your Son also may glorify You." (John 17.1) The great confessions acknowledge that, "The chief end of man is to glorify God and to praise Him forever." God is glorified today by sanctifying His people. He is glorified eternally by glorifying His people.

Salvation: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will..." (Ephesians 1.3-5) Jesus is not merely a cheerleader who is rooting for us. He is an effective Savior who has accomplished our salvation for us; not because of any merit in us, but because it pleased Him to do so.

## IV. The People of God

"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people..." I Peter 2.9

Friendship: "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6.2) No Christian should ever have to go it alone. Every member is united in one Spirit and encouraged to commit himself to every other member.

Accountability: "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted." (Galatians 6.1) The purity of the church can only be preserved if each member is held lovingly accountable to biblical standards.

Repentance: "For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God...For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness."

(I Thessalonians 4.3-5, 7) Living right before God begins with doctrinal truth and ends with individual commitment to live righteously before God.