UCDC – Statement of Faith
June 2026

A. GOD

God is the Creator and Ruler (sustainer) of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

- GOD THE FATHER

God the Father, Almighty Creator of heaven and earth, who in His love, wisdom, and providence sustains and rules over all creation. He is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom He has most fully revealed Himself to humanity. Through Christ, believers receive adoption, access to the Father, His care, correction, and love. We believe that the Father reveals His will, character, and glory through the Son, and reveals His presence, power, and work in the lives of believers through the Holy Spirit. He leads His children toward trust, obedience, holiness, likeness to Christ, and eternal glory.

- JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on the 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.

- HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He 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 power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer spiritual gifts when they are saved. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily.

D. BIBLE

The Bible is God's word. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. It is the truth, because it is inspired by God without any mixture of error.

E. MAN

People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." Sin separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

F. SIN

Sin is the conscious choice of a person to turn away from God, His authority, and His will for life. It is rebellion against God's guidance and a refusal to recognize His commandments as the primary, unchanging, and unshakable standard for human life. The Bible teaches that every person is sinful before God, because sin has affected not only individual actions, but the very heart, desires, thoughts, and will of a person. Therefore, a person cannot be spiritually neutral: he or she either recognizes God's authority and lives in obedience to Him, or rejects His authority and lives independently from Him.

G. SALVATION

Salvation is God's free gift to us, but we must accept it by faith. We can never make up for our sin by good works. Professing faith in Jesus Christ alone for forgiveness of sins is the only way anyone can be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins secured the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

H. ETERNAL SECURITY

Because God gives us eternal life as a free gift through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved through faith in Jesus Christ, you cannot "lose" it. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by self-effort. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us security.

I. ETERNITY

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or live eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and hell are real places of eternal existence.

J. THE CHURCH

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. It's scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament also speaks of the church as the "Body of Christ" which includes all of the redeemed of all ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

K. EVANGELISM & MISSIONS

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations.

L. FAMILY

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. Marriage is the unity of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord.

M. CENTERED ON THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus lived a life we could not live, died a death we should have died, is our sacrifice we could not give, and is our conquering King over the spiritual enemies we could not conquer. We believe the Gospel is the center of all life and ministry practice. We believe the Gospel is the source of all redemption and renewal in the world.

N. SCRIPTURE

We teach that Bible, as the Word of God, is (1) inspired, or God-breathed, and thus of divine origin; (2) authoritative, or possessing ultimate authority in all matters of faith and

practice; (3) sufficient, containing everything needed for salvation and living godly lives, (4) necessary, or essential for the church's very existence, (5) clear, or understandable for all Christians; (6) truthful in all that it affirms; and (7) powerful, being the power of God for salvation, sanctification, and transformation. The canon of Scripture consists of sixty-six books and excludes the apocryphal writings.

O. SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

We teach that God, from all eternity, foreordains whatsoever will come to pass in such a way that he is not the author of evil. As good, wise, and all-powerful, God completes his will. His plans can never be thwarted and nothing takes him by surprise. This sovereignty neither removes the responsibility of the creature nor denies secondary causes.

P. SALVATION

We teach that God in His grace and mercy has chosen to redeem a people to Himself, delivering them from sin and death through the sinless life, sacrificial death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. Salvation is ultimately the work of God, planned, completed, and guaranteed in its ultimate outcome by him, to save sinners. This salvation is received through repentance from sin and faith in Jesus Christ apart from any and all human cooperation, work, merit, and effort.

Q. EVANGELISM

We teach that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes and, as such, must be proclaimed to all nations. Evangelism is the communication of the Gospel in a way that can be grasped by its hearers, and the church is under obligation to engage regularly, prayerfully, passionately, unceasingly, locally and globally in such proclamation.

R. ORDINANCES OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are ordained by the Lord Jesus himself. Baptism is connected with entrance into the body of believers, the Lord's Supper with ongoing covenant renewal. Together they are simultaneously God's pledge to us, divinely ordained means of grace, our public vows of submission to the once crucified and now resurrected Christ, and anticipations of his return and of the consummation of all things.

In addition, we believe that baptism is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's association with the Triune God; faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior; the

believer's death to sin; the burial of the old life; the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus; and a testimony to believer’s faith in the final resurrection of the dead.

S. THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NON-DIVISIVE

Spiritual gifts should not be a source of division in the church. We recognize that believers may hold different convictions regarding tongues and other spiritual gifts. In our corporate gatherings, we will not make these gifts the central focus, nor will we allow disorderly practice.

If any gift is exercised, it must follow biblical order: it must build up the church, be tested according to Scripture, and be practiced in love.

The central mission of the church remains worshiping Christ, proclaiming the gospel, and making disciples.

T. MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY

We believe that God creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image of God (Gen 1:26-27). Rejection of one’s biological sex is a rejection of creation in the image of God.

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4.)

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10.)

U. ELDER-LED AND DEACON-SERVED

We believe that God gives pastors/elders to the church to shepherd the flock, preach and teach the word, pray, and exercise primary leadership of the body.

The New Testament recognizes two offices for leaders in the church: pastors/elders and deacons/deaconesses. Men and women are gifted for service in the church as deacons. The office of pastor/elder is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

We observe in Scripture that there are situations in which women fulfilled roles that many modern churches may describe as pastoral leadership. Therefore, we believe it is

the responsibility of each individual church and its leadership to determine the appropriate application and practice of this question within their local context.

V. OBEDIENCE TO THE GREAT COMMISSION

It is our conviction that all churches shall practice obedience to the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:16-20. We believe that all churches should be participating in the gospel going to all nations. All churches shall practice obedience to the Great Commission by participating at some level in 1) Equipping leaders and planting churches; 2) Sending and supporting missionaries; and 3) Giving financially to global missions and international projects.

W. OBEDIENCE TO THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

In the same way all churches are obedient to the Great Commission, all churches shall practice obedience to Matthew 22:36-40. This means that our church will have both a global posture and a local posture in missions and outreach in the neighborhoods, communities, cities and countries we are called to serve.

X. SANTIFICATION

Sanctification is the work of God's grace, through which believers, already accepted by God in Christ, are gradually renewed by the Holy Spirit. God changes their hearts, minds, desires, wills, words, actions, and responses to life's circumstances, so that their faith grows, their trust in God's promises is strengthened, sin is put to death, and their lives increasingly reflect the character of Jesus Christ.

Y. DISIPLESHIP

Discipleship is an essential part of the life of the Church and of every believer. It includes learning to understand God's Word, applying it practically in daily life, growing in faith and obedience to Christ, and sharing with others the insights received from Scripture, so that we may grow together in the knowledge of God, in life according to the Gospel, and in service to Him for His glory.

Z. DIVORCE

Marriage is a covenant established by God between one man and one woman. Divorce is not God's design for marriage, but it may be permitted as a tragic exception in cases of marital unfaithfulness, abandonment, or a serious violation of the marriage covenant, including any form of violence or abuse: physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, spiritual, financial, or otherwise. In such cases, the Church must protect those who have

been harmed, act with biblical wisdom, call the guilty person to repentance, and seek reconciliation only where it is truthful and safe.

- WIDOWS/WIDOWER

Church is called to care for widows, widowers, and those who are without proper support, showing love, practical help, and spiritual care. We also believe that after the death of a spouse, a widow or widower is free to enter into a new marriage in the Lord, while preserving a biblical understanding of marriage, purity, and faithfulness.

- CHILDREN

Children are a blessing from God, created in His image, and have great value before Him. The Church is called to receive children with love, teach them God's Word, help them know Christ, grow in faith, and be part of the life of God's people. We also believe that the Church has a responsibility to create a safe environment for children and to protect them from every form of abuse, neglect, manipulation, or spiritual pressure.

- DISABILITIES

People with disabilities are created in the image of God and have full dignity, value, and a place in the body of Christ. Disability is not a punishment for the sin of a specific person, but is a result of the general fall of humanity, the brokenness of creation, and humanity's rebellion against God. The Church is called to receive, support, protect, and include people with disabilities in worship, fellowship, discipleship, and service.

POLITICS

We believe that modern governance and politics are a necessary part of civil society in which the Church exists and carries out its mission. At the same time, we do not believe politics should become a source of division within the body of Christ.

Our focus will remain on the Gospel, which unites believers across different backgrounds, experiences, and convictions. We recognize that sincere, God-fearing, born-again believers may come to different conclusions on political and civic matters. Therefore, as a church, we do not take official political positions, nor do we prohibit respectful personal expression or civic engagement.

At the same time, we will not allow political debates, ideologies, or partisan divisions to distract from the mission and unity of the Church. Our primary calling is to proclaim Christ, make disciples, and cultivate fellowship centered on the Gospel rather than political identity.

UCDC – Statement of Faith
June 2026