High Hill Christian Church Statement of Faith

The Bible We believe the Bible is the living Word of God. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme infallible source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is inerrant, without error in the original manuscripts.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 1:13, Psalm 119:160, Proverbs 30:5, Psalm 119:105, Psalm 12:6

The Trinity We believe that there is one God who exists eternally in three distinct persons: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit are each God and are co-equal, working in unity in everything.

Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Isaiah 44:6 Matthew 3:16-17, Luke 3:22, John 14:26, Acts 2:33, Hebrews 9:14, 1 Peter 1:2, Jude 20-21, 1 Corinthians 8:6, Colossians 2:9

God The Father We believe that God the Father is the Creator and Ruler of all things. God is eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing and everpresent. He is perfect in love, justice, and holiness. He is worthy to receive all glory, honor, and praise. God is personal, and therefore concerned in the affairs of mankind.

Genesis 1:1, Psalm 57:2, Deuteronomy 10:17, Revelation 1:8, Revelation 22:13, Jeremiah 10:10, Genesis 35:11, Exodus 6:2-4, 1 John 3:20, Psalm 147:5, Job 37:16, Jeremiah 23:23-24, Isaiah 30:18, Psalm 106:3, Psalm 115, Isaiah 43:10-11 **God The Son** We believe that God the Son is Jesus Christ. While eternal in nature, His incarnation was conceived of the Holy Spirit and He was born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God, God in human form, and both fully God and fully man. Jesus perfectly revealed and lived out the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature without sin. He offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for sin and through His death provided redemption from sin for all of humanity. He died for our sins, was buried, was raised from the dead, and appeared to His disciples proving His power over death and His ability to raise us up from death. He ascended into Heaven to the right hand of God the Father, in human form, where He mediates reconciliation between God and humanity. Jesus in eternal human form will return in power and glory to judge the world and consummate His redemptive mission.

John 1:14, John 1:1-5, John 8:58, Colossians 2:9, Philippians 2:5-7, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, John 14:1-6, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18, Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 9:6, Hebrews 4:14-15, Acts 1:9-11, Romans 1:3-4

God The Holy Spirit We believe that God the Holy Spirit came to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgement. He is eternal, personal and fully divine. He came to renew, sanctify and empower all who believe and follow Jesus Christ. He enables those believers to understand truth and He comforts and intercedes for them. He dwells in the hearts of every born-again believer from the moment of salvation and seals the believer for the day of redemption. He is the acting power of God and therefore bestows spiritual gifts on believers as He wills through which they serve His church.

2 Corinthians 3:17, John 14:16-17, John 16:7-14, Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 2:10-12, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 1:13-14, Galatians 5:25, Acts 2:38, Romans 8:26-27, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Galatians 5:22-23, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Acts 20:22-23, Acts 20:28, James 4:5, Romans 15:13, John 15:26-27, Ephesians 4:30, Psalm 139:1-10 **Salvation** We believe that all people are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore under condemnation and on the road to eternal separation from God. Through the death of Jesus Christ in our place, paying the penalty for our sin, God has extended grace to all of humanity. The gift of grace is a free gift available to us but we must accept that gift through belief in Christ's sacrifice. Nothing we can do on our own will make us right before God, only through faith, belief and trust in Jesus Christ can we receive the gift of eternal salvation with God. Through repentance of our sins we are regenerated by the Holy Spirit and sealed for eternity. When we put our faith and trust in Christ we invite Him to be Lord and ruler of our life and as an act of obedience we follow His command to be baptized by immersion and strive to daily live a life that honors Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 17:9, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Romans 3:23, John 3:16-17, Galatians 3:26, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 6:23 Ephesians 2:8-9, John 1:12, John 14:6, Titus 3:5, Romans 5:1, Romans 6:3-4, Acts 2:38-39, Romans 10:9, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Spiritual Gifts We believe that the Holy Spirit often works through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, and is the working power of the Gospel. The Bible's lists of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All the spiritual gifts continue to be available to all born-again believers until the Perfect comes again, who is Jesus Christ. All spiritual gifts are given in proportion to our faith and at the will of the Holy Spirit. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of Biblical parameters.

Romans 12, 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Corinthians 12, 1 Corinthians 14, Ephesians 4, 2 Timothy 1:6-7, 1 Corinthians 13, Exodus 31:1-6, 1 Timothy 4:14, 1 Corinthians 1:7, James 1:17, Matthew 25:14-30, 1 Corinthians 7:7, Joel 2:28-30. Romans 11:29, Luke 11:11-13, 1 Peter 4:11, James 3:1 *Christian Conduct.* We believe that Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions; and that they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

We also believe that God commands the church to discipline bornagain believers in accordance with scripture. Church discipline, both formative and corrective is an implication of the gospel. All believers who are in covenant with a local body are called to spiritually submit to God's Word, each other and the God ordained leaders of that body.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 1 Peter 5:5, 1 Corinthians 10:12, Titus 3:9-11 Proverbs 18:1, Galatians 6:1, Ephesians 4:30, Romans 12:4-8, Hebrews 10:29, 1 Corinthians 1:10, Ephesians 4:1-5, Acts 2:42-47, John 13:35, 1 Peter 4:8, John 17:20-21, Matthew 18:15-17, Luke 17:3-4, Galatians 6:1-3, Romans 16:17-18, 1 Corinthians 5:1-5, 2 Corinthians 2:5-11, 2 Timothy 2:23-26

The Church We believe in the universal Church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all born-again believers are members. We believe in the local Church, consisting of a family of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.

Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 4, Acts 2:42-47, John 13:35, John 17:20-21, 1 Corinthians 1:10, Ephesians 4:1-5, Acts 20:28, Hebrews 10:24-25, Ephesians 2:19-22, Colossians 3:16, Romans 12:4-5 Colossians 1:18, Hebrews 13:17, 1 Corinthians 14:26, James 5:14-16, 1 Corinthians 12:12, Acts 14:23, Ephesians 3:10 **The Ordinances Of The Church** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local Church: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptism is our faith response to Christ. The New Testament repeatedly presents baptism as an expected and right response to Jesus. Baptism is an outward display of an inward spiritual change. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer into water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for remembrance of His death, unity of His believers, spiritual nourishment, affirmation of their faith in Him, and spiritual blessings to strengthen and encourage their daily walk.

Acts 2:38-39, Romans 6:3-4, 1 Peter 3:19-22, Galatians 3:27, 1 Corinthians 12:13, 1 Corinthians 11:26, Acts 2:42, Acts 22:16, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 1 Corinthians 11:23-32, Luke 22:14-20

Church Cooperation. We believe that local churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another. We strive for unity and cooperation amongst churches and church leaders in the communities we serve, connecting on the essentials and leaving room for liberty in non-essential beliefs with those we partner with. These connections often happen best through pastoral alliances, interdenominational fellowships, or in an association of churches such as an organization like Converge Worldwide or one of its regional districts. Cooperation in these fellowships or associations is voluntary and may be terminated at any time.

Psalm 133:1, 2 Corinthians 13:11, Romans 12:4-5, Romans 15:5-6, 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, Ephesians 4:1-6, Philippians 1:27, 1 Peter 4:10, Ecclesiastes 4:9, 3 John 1:8, Hebrews 10:24, 1 Corinthians 1:10 **Covenant Marriage** We believe that covenant marriage is a sacred institution ordained by God for the well being of mankind and propagation of the human race. God created each person on purpose for a purpose as two distinct genders, male and female. The term marriage has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive covenant union with God as a reflection of God's relationship with the church. God designed sexual intimacy to be shared exclusively in the context of a covenant marriage for the pleasure and benefit of mankind.

Genesis 2:24, 1 Corinthians 7:1-40, Hebrews 13:4, Proverbs 18:22, Ephesians 5:22-33, 1 Peter 3:1-7, Matthew 19:2-9, Mark 10:6-12, Malachi 2:13-16, Colossians 3:18-19, Matthew 5:32

Humanity We believe that God created each person on purpose for a purpose as two distinct genders, male and female. God created two distinct biological sexes, made in the image of God which are therefore sacred. Life begins at the point of conception and God declares the created order to be very good, distinguishing men and women as His agents to care for, manage and govern over it. Each individual is given stewardship of their own health and is therefore expected to care for their body as the temple of God based on their own conscience, in alignment with the Word of God, as long as their decisions do not bring harm to others. We are therefore called to defend, protect and value all human life from pre-born through natural death regardless of age, physical or mental challenge, socio-economic status, race or gender.

1 Corinthians 3:16, Genesis 1:26-27, Psalm 8:3-6, Genesis 5:1-2, Ephesians 2:10, Job 33:4, Isaiah 64:8, John 15:16, 1 John 3:1-2, Psalm 100:3, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Proverbs 6:16-19, Psalm 82:3-4, Matthew 18:10, Genesis 9:6, Galatians 1:15, Luke 12:7, Psalm 139, Philippians 2:4, John 13:34-35, 1 John 3:17-18, Luke 6:30-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Galatians 6:2, James 1:27, Luke 3:11 *Eternity.* We believe in the physical return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His Eternal Kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body and the final judgment. All people will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are literal places of eternal existence.

There will be eternal joy for the righteous, and the endless suffering for the unsaved.

Matthew 24:3, Matthew 24:37, 2 Peter 3:10, 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9, Hebrews 9:27, Revelation 20:15, John 3:16, Romans 6:23, Romans 8:17-18, 1 Corinthians 2:7-9, John 5:24, Matthew 25:31-46

Religious Liberty. We believe that every human being has direct relations with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each Church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that, therefore, church and state must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other.

Acts 20:28, Acts 14:23, 1 Timothy 5:17, Ephesians 1:22, James 4:17, Proverbs 6:20, Acts 5:29, 1 Timothy 2:1-2