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Statement of Beliefs and Covenant:

We, as brothers and sisters in Christ, accept the following as a statement of our beliefs and as our covenant.

1. Salvation

Our Belief:

As Christians we have individually received salvation as a gift of God's grace, and trust fully in Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, who died on the cross for our sins and to whom as risen Saviour we commit the full and complete control of our lives.

Our Covenant:

We have confessed our sin of unbelief and our sinning with heart and mind and body and that we have accepted God's gift of salvation which He extends to us by His grace.

We will continue to confess our sin and rely solely on His mercy for salvation.

We will share this faith and forgiveness with others, particularly with our children, so that they too will come to know the nature and reality of Christ's love.

2. Discipleship

Our Belief:

Jesus calls us to follow the example he set by His life and teachings.

The new life in Christ removes hate and unforgiveness and brings us to peace, love and forgiveness in our relationship with God and people.

As Jesus reconciled us to God, and accomplished this by returning good for the evil that was done to Him, Jesus expects His followers to be reconcilers, to overcome evil by doing good, to love their enemies as Christ demonstrated.

(Matthew 5:44, 45; Romans 12:16, 21)

Our Covenant:

We want to pray for grace to remove hatred and envy from our thoughts and actions, and for grace to enable us to forgive and to love.

We will be peacemakers in our community and larger society so that the reconciliation and love we have experienced in Christ can be experienced by others.

Christian discipleship requires a holy life and to that end we will exhort and correct each other according to Matthew 18:15-18.



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3. Stewardship

Our Belief:

The Word teaches responsibility for the use of time, talents, gifts, and money wisely for self and for others.

Our Covenant:

We will encourage each other to share responsibility of our financial and material possessions as an expression of devotion and love.

We agree that each one of us has a gift to share and will be invited and encouraged to do so in service to the local congregation, the community, and beyond.

We will devote time to the cause of the church as well as to work, rest and recreation.

4. Baptism

Our Belief:

Believer's baptism is a step of obedience that publicly affirms a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27)

In the act of baptism a commitment is made by the membership to enlarge its circle to include the one being baptized as an essential part of His living body, the Church.

Our Covenant:

We commit ourselves to encourage, uphold in prayer and support all those desiring to accept the responsibility of becoming part of our membership.

We as baptized members will join in our continuous journey together to know more clearly and to do more obediently the will of God.

With each celebration of baptism we renew our own joy in the Lord and commit ourselves to encouraging each other to walk in the power of the resurrection.

5. Church Membership

Our Belief:

Jesus Christ has called us to follow Him and to be part of His living body, the Church, of which He is the head.

Our Covenant:

We will follow Jesus Christ together, bound in common faith, identified with the same call, committed to the same task; to that end we accept each other as members of the local fellowship and commit ourselves to this covenant as an expression of what it means for us to be the Church.

We want to be in fellowship with all those who count themselves part of the universal body of Christ throughout the world.

We, as members of the Blumenort Mennonite Church, consider ourselves privileged to be a part of the body of Christ and thus hold ourselves to be responsible to build the body of Christ, the Church.



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6. Communion

Our Belief:

The Lord's Supper is to be observed by believers as a memorial of Christ's life, teachings, death, resurrection, ascension and coming again. As the Bread of Life, he is the atoning sacrifice, the sustainer of spiritual vitality (1 Cor. 11:23 ff: ...for whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.)

Our Covenant:

We will call ourselves and each other to be at peace with God and all persons in preparing ourselves to participate in the ordinance of communion.

An invitation to participation in communion will be extended to all who confess the Lordship of Christ, including persons from other congregations who are worshipping with us.

Note: We believe that following Christ as Lord ("the Lordship of Christ") includes baptism according to the commission of Christ in Matthew 28:19-20. Therefore, communion for believers baptized upon confession of faith, according to our understanding of Scripture, remains the guideline for the congregation, but not as a rule that excludes the participation in communion of other believers who sense Christ's invitation to the Lord's Table.

7. Worship

Our Belief:

The Word of God invites us to worship God, to speak to Him, to hear His voice.

Worship of the Creator and Redeemer is the most holy service and most holy privilege of children of God.

Our worship of God gives us the focus and direction which we need in order to live in this world.

Our Covenant:

We will meet in worship, praising God for all His gifts of love.

We will conduct special services of worship in communion, baptism, child dedication, funerals, weddings, and Thanksgiving observances and at other occasions.

We will devote ourselves "to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

Our private lives will also include prayer and worship.

8. Christian Education

Our Belief:

The Bible is the Word of God, the revelation of God the Father in Jesus Christ, the message of salvation through faith in Christ and the message for our life under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Ps. 119:105

"Through Christian education the church seeks to help all persons to know God as revealed supremely in Christ and the Scriptures, to become aware of who they are, of what their human situation is, of their alienation, to the end that they may repent of their sin, respond to God's redeeming love in faith, become members of the body of Christ, to grow in Christ within the community of believers, to walk in the Spirit in every relationship, to fulfill the call to discipleship in the world, to abide in the Christian hope." (General Conference Commission on Education, 1963).



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In keeping with those objectives, the congregation shall provide educational opportunities for children, youth and adults through its Sunday School, Bible study and other Christian education endeavors.

Our Covenant:

We will study the Word of God and meditate on it in our homes as individuals and as families.

We will study the Word together on Sunday morning, and in Bible Study and/or care group meetings.

We will promote the Word among people of all ages through the various Christian education programs of the congregation.

9. Mission

Our Belief:

Christ calls us to proclaim the Good News of salvation in word and deed.

Christ teaches us to continue His work of healing, reconciling, witnessing, serving, sharing-humbly and with joy, unafraid and unashamed.

Our Covenant:

We will follow and obey Jesus by sharing about our faith and His forgiveness with others and by serving Him locally.

Should the Holy Spirit call us, we will be prepared to extend our service of witness into other communities and nations.

10. Ministry of all Believers

Our Belief:

“God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us” (Romans 5:5)

The Holy Spirit has gifted each and every believer in Jesus Christ; these gifts are to be used for the common good of our sisters and brothers in the faith and to proclaim the good News of God’s love in Christ to all people.

The Word calls some to preach, teach, visit, encourage and counsel and to other tasks “to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body Christ may be built up” (Ephesians 4:12).

Our Covenant:

We will build up the local congregation by calling each other to service.

We commit ourselves to being involved in one aspect or another of this ministry.

We will encourage each other in whatever ministry has been entrusted to us as a congregation or to us as individuals or collectively.



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Accepting the full Bible and the Apostolic creed:

We believe in one God, eternally existing and manifest as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19; John 16:13-15; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, born of the Virgin Mary, in His perfect humanity, His atoning death, His bodily resurrection from the dead, and His personal triumphant return. (Matthew 1:18-25, 3:17, 25:34; John 1:14, 11:47; Hebrews 10:10; Galatians 3:13; 1 Corinthians 15:4)

We believe in the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the dead, and a future state determined by divine judgement. (1 Corinthians 15:54; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14; Revelation 20:12).

We believe in the divine inspiration and infallibility of the Bible as the Word of God and the only trustworthy guide in faith and life. (1 Timothy 3:15-16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Romans 1:16-17).

We believe that a Christian is one saved by grace, whose life is transformed into the likeness of Christ by His atoning death and the power of His resurrection. (Ephesians 2:8; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 1:6-7; Romans 12:1-2).

We believe that Christ lived and taught the way of life as recorded in the Scriptures, which is God's plan for individuals and the race, and that it becomes disciples of Christ to live in this way, thus manifesting in their personal and social life and relationships the love and holiness of God.

And we believe that this way of life also implies nonresistance to evil by carnal means, the fullest exercise of love, the resolute abandonment of the use of violence, including warfare. We believe further that the Christian life will, of necessity, express itself in non-conformity to the world in life and conduct. (Matthew 5:38-48, 6:9-13, 15:22-28; 1 John 5:14).

We believe in prayer as fellowship with God, a desire to be in His will, and its divine power. (Matthew 7:7-8, 6:9-13, 15:22-28; 1 John 5:14).

We believe that the Christian church consists of believers who have repented from their sins, have accepted Christ by faith, are born again, and sincerely endeavour by the grace of God to live the Christian life. (Matthew 5:34-37, 22:37-40; John 20:31; Galatians 6:15; 1 John 3:9; 1 Peter 1:15).

We believe in the brotherhood of the redeemed under the fatherhood of God in Christ. (Galatians 3:26; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22-23).

In addition, we uphold and affirm the 24 articles of a "Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective" which was adopted at the delegate session of the Mennonite General Conference at Wichita Kansas, July 25-30, 1995.