

**THE ARTICLES OF FAITH OF  
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONTPELIER, IN**

1. WE BELIEVE that the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament are verbally inspired of God (II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21) and inerrant in the original writing and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life. (II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 3:19)
2. WE BELIEVE in one God (Ex. 20:1-3) eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:19; Luke 3:21-22) and equal in essence while distinct in personality and function. (Luke 3:21-22; I Cor. 8:6)
3. WE BELIEVE in God's direct creation of the universe (Gen. 1:1-31; Ex. 20:11; Col.3:16-17) without the use of pre-existent material (Heb. 11:3) and apart from any process of evolution whatever, according to the Genesis account. (Gen. 1:1-31)
4. WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, the sinless, (Heb. 4:14-15) eternal (Jn. 1:1,14) Son of God, (Gal. 4:4) was conceived by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:36) and born of Mary, a virgin, (Luke 1:34-35) and is true God and true man. (Jn. 1:1, 14)
5. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of the crucified body of our lord, (Matt. 28:1-7; I Cor. 15:4-9) in His ascension into Heaven, (Acts 1:8-11) and in His present life there as High Priest and Advocate. (Heb. 4:14-16)
6. WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit is the agent of the new birth through conviction, reproof (Jn. 16:7-13) and regeneration, (Titus 3:5-7) and that He seals, (Eph. 1:13) indwells, (Rom. 8:9) and baptizes every believer into the body of Christ (I Cor. 12:13) at the moment of salvation. We believe that the Holy Spirit fills, (Eph. 5:18) empowers, (Eph. 4:11-23) and distributes service gifts to believers, (Rom. 12:6-8) but that the sign gifts were restricted to Apostolic period. (Heb. 2:3-4; Eph. 2:20; I Cor 13:8-13)
7. WE BELIEVE that man was created in the image of God, (Gen. 1:26-27) that he sinned (Gen. 3:1-6) and thereby incurred not only physical death but also that spiritual death (Gen. 3:1-6; Rom 5:12,19) which is separation from God (I Jn. 5:12) and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature (Rom. 3:10-13) and sinners in thought, word and deed. (Titus 1:15-16)
8. WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ died as the substitutionary sacrifice for all men (Isa. 53:4-11) the blood atonement was unlimited in its potential (I Jn. 2:1-2) it is limited only in its application, (I Tim. 4:10) effectively saving those who are brought by the Holy Spirit (Jn. 3:5-8) to repentance and faith. (Jn. 16:8-13)
9. WE BELIEVE that all who receive by faith (Eph. 2:8-9) the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 3:3-16) and thereby become children of God. (Jn. 1:12-13)

10. WE BELIEVE in the eternal security of the believer, (Jn. 6:39,47; Rom. 8:35-39; Jude 1) that it is impossible for one born into the family of God ever to be lost because he is forever kept by the power of God. (Jn. 10:28-29); 1 Pet. 1:5)
11. WE BELIEVE in "That Blessed Hope" (Titus 2:13) the personal, (Jn. 14:1-3) premillennial, (Rev. 19:11-20:6) pretribulation (Rev. 3:7-10) and imminent return (Titus 2:13) of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, when the Church will be gathered unto Him. (I Cor. 15:51-58; I Thess. 4:13-18; II Thess. 2:1)
12. WE BELIEVE in the literal fulfillment of prophecies and promises of the scripture which foretell and assure the future regeneration and restoration of Israel as a nation. (Gen 13:14-17; Jer. 16:14-15, 30:6-11; Rom. 11)
13. WE BELIEVE in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust (I Thess. 4:13-18; Matt. 25:31-34,41,46) the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost. (Luke 16:19-31; Rev. 21:1-8)
14. WE BELIEVE that the church which is Christ's body (Eph. 1:22-23) is the spiritual organism consisting of all born again believers of the New Testament dispensation. (I Cor. 12:12-13)
15. WE BELIEVE that the local church is the agency through which God has chosen to accomplish His work in the world. (Acts 2:41-42,47) a New Testament Baptist Church is an organized body of baptized believers, (Acts 2:41; Matt. 28:18-20) immersed upon a credible confession of faith in Jesus Christ (Acts 8:35-38) having two offices (pastor and deacon) (I Tim.3) congregational in polity, autonomous in nature and banded together for work, worship, edification, the observance of the ordinances and the worldwide fulfillment of the Great Commission. (I Pet. 5:1-3; Eph. 4:11-16; Matt. 27:18-20) We believe that the local church, under Christ's headship (Eph. 1:22) is to be free of any external hierarchy and should not associate itself with any such effort to compromise the truth. (Rom. 16:17; II Cor. 6:14-17; I Tim. 6:3-5)
16. WE BELIEVE that the scriptural ordinances of the church are baptism (Matt. 28:18-20) and communion (I Cor. 11:23-28) and are to be administered by the local church. (Acts 2:41-42) that baptism by immersion should be administered to believers only as a symbol of their belief in the death, burial, and resurrection with Him (Col. 2:12) and that communion should be partaken of by believers to show forth His death "till He come". (II Cor. 11:23-28)

**ARTICLES OF FAITH APPENDIX  
POLICY STATEMENTS**

1. WE AFFIRM that God intends marriage to be monogamous, life-long, one flesh union of a woman and a man, who in response to God's call leave father and mother and cleave to one another. (Gen. 2:18-24; Eph. 5:22-31)
2. WE AFFIRM that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. (Rom. 1:26-28; I Cor. 6:9-10)
3. WE AFFIRM that abortion is incompatible with Christian teaching. (Gen. 9:6; Ex. 23:7; Deut. 27:25; Ex. 21:22-23; Matt. 1:18)
4. WE AFFIRM that we do not support the World Council of Churches.