

Brief Statement of Faith – Michigan State Holiness Camp Meeting Association

We believe:

That there is one God who exists in three co-equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That the Bible in the Old and New Testaments is the Word of God revealed, without error in all that it affirms, and that it is the sufficient rule for faith and practice in all of life.

That humanity is created male and female in the image of God, (with gender determined at birth), but that that image has been marred as a result of the sin of our first parents with the result that all persons have chosen to sin and are thus alienated from God and from eternal life.

That Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became human through his birth to the Virgin Mary. Fully God and fully human, in his death he made a perfect sacrifice for the sins of all humanity. He was resurrected by his Father through the Spirit, demonstrating that Death has been forever defeated.

That the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection are available to all persons who will repent of their sins and accept those benefits by faith. Such persons are saved from the guilt, shame, and condemnation of their sins and receive the gift of eternal life.

That those who believe in Christ are lived in by the Holy Spirit who gives new life to their spirits, "raising them from the dead" and allowing them to live a righteous life.

That Christians do not normally know of the enmity (opposition) of their will to God's will until they sincerely try to live the life of God. Having come to know that enmity, they may exercise faith to be filled with the Holy Spirit through an act of entire surrender of their selfish will to the will of God. This second moment of surrender, faith, and consecration results in a life of victory over willful sin, of sincere love for others, and of new fruitfulness in witnessing. It also removes any hindrances toward growth in holiness (god-likeness) in that it now gives God complete access to the life.*

That marriage is a commitment of one man and one woman, (with gender determined at birth), to each other in a covenant of love for life.

That those who share Christian faith are part of a worldwide fellowship of faith and service known as the Church. This universal Church is to be manifested locally in groups of persons who are committed to each other, to God, and to the salvation of the world.

*The teaching of this particular element was the occasion for the founding of the Association and remains the special emphasis of the Eaton Rapids Campmeeting which is sponsored by the Association.

For further elaboration and rationale see The Statement of Faith