



## WHAT WE BELIEVE

The following is our statement of faith as adopted by Converge Worldwide. The heart and soul of Converge Worldwide is lived out in their vision statement: "To catalyze movements of reproducing churches – reproducing the life of Christ in disciples, leaders and congregations." Their vision and core values unite ministries in six regions of the world: North America, Latin America, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The statement reflects both the beliefs and character of Prairie Lakes Church.

### **The Word of God**

We believe that the Bible is the fully inspired Word of God, without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20,21)

### **The Trinity**

We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious roles in the work of creation, providence, and redemption. (Genesis 1:1,26; Matthew 28:19; John 1:1,3; 4:24; Acts 5:3,4; Romans 1:20; Ephesians 4:5,6; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

## **God the Father**

We believe in God, the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of each person, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Isaiah 40:28, Jeremiah 33:3, John 14:1-14,23, James 4:8, Romans 11:32-36)

## **Jesus Christ**

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and is fully God and fully man. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death on the cross, bodily resurrection, ascension into Heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to Earth. (Isaiah 53; Matthew 1:18-25, 20:28, 28:6; Luke 1:26-38; John 3:16; Romans 3:24-26, 5:1, 9:5, 10:9; 1 Corinthians 1:30-31, 15:3, 15:14; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 1:7 Titus 2:13; 1 John 2:2)

## **The Holy Spirit**

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convince people of their sin, Christ's righteousness, the judgment to come, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide. (John 16:8-13; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Romans 8:26-27)

## **Regeneration**

We believe that all people are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins as a substitutionary sacrifice for us. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are saved from condemnation by grace and regenerated by the Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:26-27, 3:1-24; Matthew 20:28; John 3:16; Romans 3:1-25, 5:12-18; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 John 1:8-9)

## **Christ's Return**

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to Earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal joy of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked. (Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:28-29, 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10, Philippians 3:20; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Revelation 11-15, 20:4-6)

## **Baptism and Communion**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and communion. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the triune God as a public declaration of their faith. We believe that those who take communion, which was initiated by Christ for commemoration of His death, should be believers walking in fellowship with Him. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38-46, 8:36-40, 10:47, 18:8; Romans 6:3-4, 1 Corinthians 11:23-29)

## **Life of a Believer In Christ**

We believe that every human being has direct relations with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith. We believe that Christians should live for the Glory of God and the well-being of others. Believers should seek to realize for themselves and others full maturity in Christ, who lived a perfect life. Believers should be active and regular members of a church community, whose primary task is sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with a lost world. (Matthew 28:18-20; John 15:1-13; Romans 3:19-26, 6; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3; Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 10:24-25)