

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Amendments Proposed

As of June 30, 2022

We believe it will better facilitate our deliberation if 1.10 is discussed prior to 1.5, hence it is presented in this manner.

Section 1.10

Status: Draft Proposal for 2023 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2025 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (j) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.10 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life;³⁰ for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.³¹ (³⁰1 Corinthians 15:20-23, ³¹John 5:28-29)

Be amended as follows:

There ~~shall~~ will be a bodily resurrection of all people (Acts 24:15). Our Lord Jesus Christ will judge with perfect justice (Acts 17:31, John 5:28-30) as the unrepentant and unbelieving are raised to the conscious anguish of eternal separation from the presence of God (Revelation 20:15, 21:8, 2 Thessalonians 1:9), and repentant believers are raised (John 6:4) to the unending joy of eternal life in the presence of God (Psalm 16:11, Revelation 21:1-4). ~~the just and of the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life;³⁰ for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.³¹ (³⁰1 Corinthians 15:20-23, ³¹John 5:28-29)~~

The amended section will then read:

There will be a bodily resurrection of all people (Acts 24:15). Our Lord Jesus Christ will judge with perfect justice (Acts 17:31, John 5:28-30) as the unrepentant and unbelieving are raised to the conscious anguish of eternal separation from the presence of God (Revelation 20:15, 21:8, 2 Thessalonians 1:9), and repentant believers are raised (John 6:4) to the unending joy of eternal life in the presence of God (Psalm 16:11, Revelation 21:1-4).

Section 1.5

Status: Draft Proposal for 2023 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2025 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (e) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.5 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-1-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God: ¹⁶ he fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a sinful nature, ¹⁷ are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.¹⁸ The portion of the impenitent and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment; ¹⁹ and that of the believer, in everlasting joy and bliss.²⁰ (¹⁶Genesis 1:27, ¹⁷Romans 3:23, ¹⁸1 Corinthians 15:20-23, ¹⁹Revelation 21:8, ²⁰Revelation 21:1-4)

Be amended as follows:

Man and woman were ~~was originally~~ created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27); ~~he~~ yet fell through disobedience, incurring ~~thereby~~ both physical and spiritual death (Romans 6:23). ~~All men are~~ Everyone is born with a sinful nature (Romans 5:12), ~~are~~ is separated from the life of God (Ephesians 4:18), and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 3:25).¹⁸ ~~The portion of the impenitent and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment;~~¹⁹ ~~and that of the believer, in everlasting joy and bliss.~~²⁰ (~~¹⁶Genesis 1:27, ¹⁷Romans 3:23, ¹⁸1 Corinthians 15:20-23, ¹⁹Revelation 21:8, ²⁰Revelation 21:1-4~~)

The amended section will then read:

Man and woman were created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27), yet fell through disobedience, incurring both physical and spiritual death (Romans 6:23). Everyone is born with a sinful nature (Romans 5:12), is separated from the life of God (Ephesians 4:18), and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 3:25).

Section 1.7

Status: Draft Proposal for 2023 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2025 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (g) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.7 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified wholly, ²² being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to the will of God, thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service.²³ This is both a crisis and a progressive experience wrought in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion.²⁴ (²²1 Thessalonians 5:23, ²³Acts 1:8, ²⁴Romans 6:1-14)

Be amended as follows:

It is the will of God that through the indwelling Christ (Colossians 1:27) each believer ~~should be filled with the Holy Spirit and~~ be sanctified wholly (1 Thessalonians 5:23),²² being separated from sin, ~~and the world and~~ fully dedicated to ~~the will of~~ God (Romans 6:13), and filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18), thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service (Acts 1:8).²³ Positional sanctification accompanies conversion while experiential sanctification follows and is both a decisive point of complete surrender (Romans 12:1) ~~crisis~~ and a progressive experience (Galatians 5:16, 25) ~~wrought~~ through which Christ is formed in the life of the believer by the Spirit ~~subsequent to conversion~~ (Galatians 4:19, Romans 6:1-14).²⁴ ~~(22+ Thessalonians 5:23, 23 Acts 1:8, 24 Romans 6:1-14)~~

The amended section will then read:

It is the will of God that through the indwelling Christ (Colossians 1:27) each believer be sanctified wholly (1 Thessalonians 5:23), being separated from sin, fully dedicated to God (Romans 6:13), and filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18), thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service (Acts 1:8). Positional sanctification accompanies conversion while experiential sanctification follows and is both a decisive point of complete surrender (Romans 12:1) and a progressive experience (Galatians 5:16, 25) through which Christ is formed in the life of the believer by the Spirit (Galatians 4:19, Romans 6:1-14).

Section 1.9

Status: Draft Proposal for 2023 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2025 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (i) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.9 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

The Church consists of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church,²⁷ which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world as a witness, preaching the gospel to all nations.²⁸

The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together for the worship of God, for edification through the Word of God, for prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel, and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.²⁹ (²⁷Ephesians 1:22-23, ²⁸Matthew 28:19-20, ²⁹Acts 2:41-47)

Be amended as follows:

The Church consists of all those who believe ~~on~~ in the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of ~~the~~ His Body (Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 1:18), the Church,²⁷ which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world making disciples of all peoples (Matthew 28:19-20). ~~as a witness, preaching the gospel to all nations.~~²⁸

The local church is a ~~loving~~ body of believers in Christ (Ephesians 5:30) who are called to love (1 Thess. 3:12) and joined together for the worship of God, ~~for~~ edification through the Word of God, ~~for~~ prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel through word and deed (Luke 4:18-19), and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:41-47).²⁹ ~~(²⁷Ephesians 1:22-23, ²⁸Matthew 28:19-20, ²⁹Acts 2:41-47)~~

The amended section will then read:

The Church consists of all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of His Body (Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 1:18), the Church, which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world making disciples of all peoples (Matthew 28:19-20).

The local church is a body of believers in Christ (Ephesians 5:30) who are called to love (1 Thess. 3:12) and joined together for the worship of God, edification through the Word of God, prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel through word and deed (Luke 4:18-19), and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:41-47).

Section 1.11

Status: Draft Proposal for 2023 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2025 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (k) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.11 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

The Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent³² and will be personal, visible, and premillennial.³³ This is the believer's blessed hope and is a vital truth which is an incentive to holy living and faithful service.³⁴ (³²Hebrews 10:37, ³³Luke 21:27, ³⁴Titus 2:11-14)

Be amended as follows:

The Second Coming of ~~the Lord~~ Jesus Christ, our Lord and King (Revelation 19:16), is imminent (Hebrews 10:37, Revelation 22:20)³² and will be sudden (1 Corinthians 15:52), personal, and visible (Acts 1:11, Matthew 26:64), ~~and~~ premillennial.³³ ~~Revelation 20:1-7~~). This is the believer's blessed hope and is a

vital truth which calls us ~~is an incentive to~~ holy living, intentional witness, and faithful service (Titus 2:11-14).³⁴ (~~³²Hebrews 10:37, ³³Luke 21:27, ³⁴Titus 2:11-14~~)

The amended section will then read:

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ, our Lord and King (Revelation 19:16), is imminent (Hebrews 10:37, Revelation 22:20) and will be sudden (1 Corinthians 15:52), personal, and visible (Acts 1:11, Matthew 26:64). This is the believer's blessed hope and is a vital truth which calls us to holy living, intentional witness, and faithful service (Titus 2:11-14).

FOR REFERENCE, THE SECTIONS BELOW WERE ADOPTED AT 2021 GENERAL COUNCIL AND WILL BE PRESENTED TO 2023 GENERAL COUNCIL FOR RATIFICATION:

Section 1.1

Status: Adopted at 2021 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2023 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (a) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-1) and Section 1.1 in the General Bylaws (page A2-1), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

There is one God¹, who is infinitely perfect², existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.³ (¹Deuteronomy 6:4, ²Matthew 5:48, ³Matthew 28:19)

Be amended as follows:

There is one God⁺ (Deuteronomy 6:4), Creator of all things (Revelation 4:11), who is infinitely perfect² (Matthew 5:48), existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).³ (~~¹Deuteronomy 6:4, ²Matthew 5:48, ³Matthew 28:19~~)

The section will then read:

There is one God (Deuteronomy 6:4), Creator of all things (Revelation 4:11), who is infinitely perfect (Matthew 5:48), existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).

Section 1.2

Status: Adopted at 2021 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2023 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (b) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-1) and Section 1.2 in the General Bylaws (page A2-1), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

Jesus Christ is true God and true man.⁴ He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.⁵ He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust,⁶ as a substitutionary sacrifice,⁷ and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.⁸ He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures.⁹ He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest.¹⁰ He will come again to establish His Kingdom of righteousness and peace.¹¹

(⁴Philippians 2:6-11, ⁵Luke 1:34-38, ⁶1 Peter 3:18, ⁷Hebrews 2:9, ⁸Romans 5:9, ⁹Acts 2:23-24, ¹⁰Hebrews 8:1, ¹¹Matthew 26:64)

Be amended as follows:

Jesus Christ is the true God and true man (Philippians 2:6-11).⁴ He was sent by the Father (John 20:21), conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin, Mary (Luke 1:34-38).⁵ He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust (1 Peter 3:18),⁶ as a substitutionary sacrifice (Hebrews 2:9),⁷ and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood (Romans 5:9).⁸ He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).⁹ He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest (Hebrews 8:1).¹⁰ He will come again to establish His Kingdom of righteousness and peace (Isaiah 9:6-7).¹¹ (~~⁴Philippians 2:6-11, ⁵Luke 1:34-38, ⁶1 Peter 3:18, ⁷Hebrews 2:9, ⁸Romans 5:9, ⁹Acts 2:23-24, ¹⁰Hebrews 8:1, ¹¹Matthew 26:64~~)

The section will then read:

Jesus Christ is the true God and true man (Philippians 2:6-11). He was sent by the Father (John 20:21), conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin, Mary (Luke 1:34-38). He died on the cross, the Just for the unjust (1 Peter 3:18), as a substitutionary sacrifice (Hebrews 2:9), and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood (Romans 5:9). He rose from the dead according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest (Hebrews 8:1). He will come again to establish His Kingdom of righteousness and peace (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Section 1.3

Status: Adopted at 2021 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2023 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (c) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-1) and Section 1.3 in the General Bylaws (page A2-1), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

The Holy Spirit is a divine person,¹² sent to indwell, guide, teach, empower the believer,¹³ and convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.¹⁴ (¹²John 14:15-18, ¹³John 16:13 and Acts 1:8, ¹⁴John 16:7-11)

Be amended as follows:

The Holy Spirit is a divine person (John 14:16-18),¹² sent to indwell, guide, teach, gift, empower, and bear His fruit in every ~~the~~ believer (John 16:13; 1 Corinthians 12:4, 11; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23).¹³ ~~and convince~~ He convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment (John 16:7-11).¹⁴ (~~¹²John 14:15-18, ¹³John 16:13 and Acts 1:8, ¹⁴John 16:7-11~~)

The section will then read:

The Holy Spirit is a divine person (John 14:16-18), sent to indwell, guide, teach, gift, empower, and bear His fruit in every believer (John 16:13; 1 Corinthians 12:4, 11; Acts 1:8; Galatians. 5:22-23). He convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment (John 16:7-11).

Section 1.4

Status: Adopted at 2021 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2023 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (d) in the Articles of Incorporation (pages A1-1-2) and Section 1.4 in the General Bylaws (page A2-1), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.¹⁵ (¹⁵2 Peter 1:20-21 and 2 Timothy 3:15-16).

Be amended as follows:

The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for ~~the~~ our salvation ~~of men~~. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.¹⁵ (¹⁵2 Peter 1:20-21, ~~and~~ 2 Timothy 3:15-~~16~~ 17).

The section will then read:

The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for our salvation. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice (2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 3:15-17).

Section 1.6

Status: Adopted at 2021 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2023 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (f) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.6 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all men; and those who repent and believe in Him are born again of the Holy Spirit, receive the gift of eternal life, and become the children of God.²¹ (²¹Titus 3:4-7)

Be amended as follows:

Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all ~~men~~ people (1 John 2:2). ~~and~~ Those who repent and believe in Him are justified by grace through faith (Romans 3:21-24), born again of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:4-7), delivered from the dominion of darkness, transferred into the Kingdom of **God's Son (Colossians 1:13)**, ~~receive~~ granted the gift of eternal life, and ~~become~~ adopted as the children of God (Romans 8:14-16, John 1:12).²¹ (~~²¹Titus 3:4-7~~)

The section will then read:

Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all people (1 John 2:2). Those who repent and believe in Him are justified by grace through faith (Romans 3:21-24), born again of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:4-7), delivered from the dominion of darkness, transferred into the Kingdom of God's Son (Colossians 1:13), granted the gift of eternal life, and adopted as the children of God (Romans 8:14-16, John 1:12).

Section 1.8

Status: Adopted at 2021 General Council -
Requires Ratification by 2023 General Council

It is recommended that the Statement of Faith, paragraph (h) in the Articles of Incorporation (page A1-2) and Section 1.8 in the General Bylaws (pages A2-2), in the *C&MA Manual*, which reads:

Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body.²⁵ Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures and are privileges for the Church in this present age.²⁶ (²⁵Matthew 8:16-17, ²⁶James 5:13-16)

Be amended as follows:

Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the whole person (Isaiah 53:4-5, Matthew 8:16-17) ~~mortal body.~~²⁵ Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures (James 5:13-16) ~~and are as~~ privileges for the Church in this present age (Acts 4:30).²⁶ (~~²⁵Matthew 8:16-17, ²⁶James 5:13-16~~)

The section will then read:

Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the whole person (Isaiah 53:4-5, Matthew 8:16-17). Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures (James 5:13-16) as privileges for the Church in this present age (Acts 4:30).