

SOUTH CHINGFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. THE TRINITY

- a. There are three persons in the Trinity; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- b. These three persons are one God and are equal in substance, power and glory.

2. GOD THE FATHER

- a. God is almighty, eternal and unchanging.
- b. God is just and holy, gracious and merciful.
- c. God is the creator and sovereign over all things.

3. GOD THE SON

- a. God became man in the person of Jesus Christ.
- b. Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
- c. Jesus Christ lived a sinless life showing himself to be the Son of God.
- d. Jesus Christ suffered and died on a cross in the place of sinners, bearing their sin with its guilt and punishment.
- e. On the third day after his death, Jesus Christ was raised to life again, overcoming the power of death and hell.
- f. Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father where he continually intercedes for those who call on his name.
- g. Jesus Christ will return visibly to earth at the climax of human history to judge the world and to establish his everlasting kingdom.

4. GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

- a. The Holy Spirit has the power to convict men and women of sin and lead them to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.
- b. The Holy Spirit lives within every true believer.
- c. The Holy Spirit gives gifts to believers to enable them to witness to their faith and to build the church which is the Body of Jesus Christ.
- d. The Holy Spirit develops within the believer the fruits of love and holiness, gradually making the believer more Christ-like.

5. SIN AND SALVATION

- a. God created man perfect, but, after being tempted by the devil, man, by his own free choice, disobeyed God and became a sinner. Man's whole nature is now contaminated by sin, and his fellowship with God is broken.
- b. God alone can deal with man's sin and bring about reconciliation to himself.
- c. God has enabled our reconciliation to himself by sending his only Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the price for our sin by his death upon the cross.
- d. All who put their trust in Jesus Christ, by his death upon the cross, receive forgiveness of sin, a renewed relationship with God, and the gift of eternal life.

- e. When Jesus Christ returns to earth to judge the world and to establish his kingdom, all those who have put their trust in him will be saved and enter into eternal life in heaven; but all those who have not put their trust in him will be condemned to everlasting torment in hell.

6. THE CHURCH

- a. The church is made up of all those who have trusted Jesus Christ for salvation and been adopted into the family of God as his sons and daughters.
- b. The Church is the Body of Christ on earth.
- c. The Church's commission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to make disciples of all nations by baptising them and teaching them to obey his commands.

7. THE BIBLE

- a. The Bible is God's written word.
- b. The Bible is unique and has power and authority by which every generation should live.
- c. The Bible was written down by men as they were moved and inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- d. The Bible is without fault.