OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Presbyterian Church in America or "The PCA" is a distinctly evangelical denomination in the Reformed tradition. The Bible as the Word of God is the primary standard for our faith. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, although subordinate to the Bible in their authority, set forth our understanding of biblical truth in a consistent, concise, and reliable form. In the Reformed tradition, there are five key tenets, among others, that we hold to: By Scripture Alone; By Christ Alone; By Grace Alone; By Faith Alone; and To God Alone be the Glory.

- We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit
 and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation
 of God's truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and
 practice.
- We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God's displeasure, except by His mercy.
- We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God's people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.
- We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



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Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

March 30, 2014

"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect," 1 Peter: 3:15

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Calling and Our Praise

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Exodus 15:1b-3,11

Leader: Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

All: I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

All: The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is his name.

*PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM! - Hymn #173

*REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING - Hymn #310

(*Indicates when to stand)

We ask that you please turn off cell phones during the worship service. Thank you.

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALENDAR

*BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD

TODAY

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea, a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on his hands, My name is written on his heart; I know that while in heav'n he stands no tongue can bid me thence depart, no tongue can bid me thence depart.

8:30 a.m. - WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - WORSHIP SERVICE

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free; for God the Just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me, to look on him and pardon me.

THIS WEEK

Behold him there! The risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness; the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace! One with himself I cannot die, my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,

- Ladies' Spiritual Disciplines Study, 6:30 p.m. at the church Monday - Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church Tuesday Wednesday - Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. at the church - Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the Piersons'

LOOKING AHEAD

- Music practice, 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays

- Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. Wednesdays

- Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups (Sept.-May)

Sundays - Adult Small Groups (Sept.-May)

1st Sundays Diaconal Offering

- Elder home visits, Trustee Meeting 1st Tuesdays 3rd Tuesdays - Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays - Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home, (Sept.-May)

my soul is purchased by his blood;

with Christ, my Savior and my God.

Thursday, April 10 - Feed the Flathead, 5:30 p.m. at Central Christian Church Friday, April 11 - 40 Days for Life Vigil, see annoucements for details - Mission Presentation, 10 a.m. at the church Sunday, April 13 Sunday, April 13 - Senior High Youth Party, 12:30-5:30 at the Thompsons' Tuesday, April 15 - Elder/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the church Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Service, 7:30 p.m. at the church Sunday, April 20 No Sunday school

- EASTER SUNDAY: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Saturday, April 26 - Ladies' Spiritual Disciplines Study, 10:30 a.m. at the church - Ladies' Spiritual Disciplines Study, 6:30 p.m. at the church Monday, April 28 Tuesday, April 29 - Leadership Training Class Starts, 7:00 p.m. at the church Friday, May 2-3 - Men's Retreat, Bend Guard Station, details to come

- Ladies' Spring Tea, 2 p.m. at the church Sunday, May 4

His Renewal and Our Hope

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: 1 Peter 1:14-16

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

Please join us on Friday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. for our **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE.** On **EASTER SUNDAY**, April 20, Faith Covenant Elders and Deacons will cook and serve breakfast between the two services at 10 a.m. There will be no Sunday School classes that day.

POT O'LUCK THANK YOU: The fellowship committee says thank you to everyone who joined us for our Pot O'Luck lunch March 16. A great meal and fun fellowship was shared all!

LOST AND FOUND: Remember to grab your potluck dishes in the fellowship hall!

ONLINE GIVING: You may now give your offerings through the church website at www.faithcov.com. Click on the "launch secure giving" button and follow the simple directions to set up an account. Contact the office (752-2400) if you have questions.

THE REFUGE: A SUPPORT GROUP FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE:

If you or someone you know is a victim of physical, verbal or emotional abuse, Faith Covenant Church has a support group that can help. People with little or no church background are welcome to attend. Contact the church office (752-2400) for more information.

For Prayer Chain requests or to be added to the prayer chain, please contact the church office at 752-2400 or email to office@faithcov.com.

MARCH

DEACON OF THE MONTH	Ike Eisentraut
NURSERY M.O.M. (Mom of the Month)	Carol Martin
NURSERY COORDINATOR	Darcy Hearn
Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.	
TODAY	
USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM)	Paul & Alyssa Hobus
USHERS/GREETERS (11 AM)	Bruce & Benni Tulloch
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11 AM service only)	Sharí Montague
WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM)	Darcy Hearn
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM infants)	Sara Motley
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM toddlers thru 3yrs)	Becky Neumann
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS	Laura Pierson & Sharon Riley
COMMUNION PREP	Carol Martin
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP	Hanni Hanson
NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 6	
USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM)	
USHERS/GREETERS (11 AM)	
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11 AM service only)	Sharí Montague
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM infants)	Jenae Schmautz
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM toddlers thru 3yrs)	Wendy Putzler/Briahna Bennett
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS	Patti Albert & Kristin Bay
COMMUNION PREP	
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP	Yvonne Hernandez
- 10 -	

Leader: For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.

All: Father cleanse us, for our secret thoughts savor our lusts and our wicked desires.

Leader: The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

All: Almighty God forgive us, for in our pride we despise humility and submission to others, and do not consider others before ourselves.

Leader: You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

All: Father we confess that our hearts are filled with deceit, and that we often treat the truth with indifference.

(adapted from Psalm 5:4-6)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: 1 Corinthians 1:8-9

God will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS - Hymn #679

PRAYER, OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew. 11:00 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children's Church (held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)

OFT IN SORROW - music in pew racks

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

His Word and Our Response

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson Sermon Series: 1 Peter - Living as Exiles Sermon Title: *Honoring Christ* Sermon Text: 1 Peter 3:13-17

(See pages 6-8 for sermon outline and text)

*KNOWING YOU

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own.
All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now compared to this.

(Chorus)

Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you; there is no greater thing. You're my all, I confess, you're my joy, my righteousness; and I love you, Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know you more, to be found in you and known as yours.

To possess by faith what I could not earn, all surpassing gift of righteousness.

(Chorus)

Oh, to know the pow'r of your risen life and to know you in your sufferings.

To become like you in your death, my Lord, so with you to live and never die.

(Chorus 2x)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring. (See FCC Observance on page 5)

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

*WHEN TRIALS COME

When trials come no longer fear
For in the pain our God draws near
To fire a faith worth more than gold
And there His faithfulness is told
And there His faithfulness is told

Within the night I know Your peace
The breath of God brings strength to me
And new each morning mercy flows
As treasures of the darkness grow
As treasures of the darkness grow

(song continued on next page)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Fresh Life Church, Kalispell, Pastor Levi Lusko

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Pray for Seth & Rachel Parks and their transition back to the states from Turkey and for the safe and healthy delivery of their second baby due this month.

GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY THRU MARCH 9:

Targeted Budget = \$57,673; Offerings received = \$59,940

LADIES SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES STUDY: The monthly Ladies Bible Study on Spiritual Disciplines will meet again March 29 or March 31. Choose the time that works for you! This month's discipline is prayer. Meet at the church on Saturday, March 29, from 10:30 a.m, to noon **OR** Monday, March 31, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Questions? Call Chany at 260-3221.

SPRING BREAK YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS: The senior high youth group will meet over spring break on Wednesday, April 2, at the Pierson home (30 Chip Court). The junior high youth group will NOT meet April 2.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN-FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next on **Thursday, April 10**, at *Central Christian Church*. If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmautz.

SPRING 40 DAYS FOR LIFE VIGIL: In light of the recent vandalism at the local abortion provider's clinic, vigil participants will be praying at their local churches. Faith Covenant's vigil day is Friday, April 11. Sign up in the foyer to participate in this peaceful pro-life movement to end abortion in our community and country.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP PARTY: The senior high youth are invited to a spring gathering Sunday, April 13, at the Thompsons' Echo Lake home (255 Echo Chalet Drive). The group will leave from the church at 12:30 and be back at the church at 5:30. Lunch is provided.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING STARTS APRIL 22: Advanced theological and practical training will be offered for those interested in providing leadership in the church, their family or their sphere of influence. Sign up in the foyer if you are interested. **Classes will be Tuesdays, STARTING APRIL 22, at the church at 7 p.m.**

EASTER LILIES CAN BE PURCHASED in honor or memory of your loved ones. Your dedication will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Forms are available on the table in the foyer for you to fill out and leave in the box provided or you may return them to the church office along with \$10.00 (per lily), no later than Sunday, April 13. Lilies will be displayed on Easter Sunday and you are welcome to take them home after the worship service.

MISSION PRESENTATION APRIL 13: John Carter, MTW Native American Mission Director, will be presenting during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, April 13. John leads the Mission to the World team serving in Colville, Wash., this June 21-28th. For more information, contact Joe Swenson (871-5273) or go to mtwtrips.com.

(Announcements continued on next page)

Questions and thoughts for discussion:

- 1. Is verse 13 a general promise for living now, or does it speak of what is to come?
- 2. Do you pray and seek the Lord to transform you into the kind of Christian that Peter is talking about here?
- 3. Peter speaks of giving a rational for the 'hope' that we have and not the 'faith' that we have. What do you think is significant about this distinction?
- 4. Does gentleness and respect describe your interaction with those who do not believe? Do they describe what you typically see when Christians 'defend' their faith to unbelievers?
- 5. Will doing good necessarily keep others from speaking ill of you? Why does it still matter then?
- 6. In verse 17, Peter speaks of suffering as being connected to God's will. This has always been a source of great comfort to God's people knowing that nothing is happening tot them that is outside of the Lord's control. How is this also a potential struggle?
- 7. In the illustration of the Turkish soldier and the nurse, how did you see her honoring Christ? In what way does this motivate you in your circumstances? In what way are you struggling with her response?
- 8. What has been a personal challenge for you in responding in Christ-like way to suffering?

*WHEN TRIALS COME, continued

I turn to wisdom not my own
For ev'ry battle You have known
My confidence will rest in You
Your love endures Your ways are good
Your love endures Your ways are good

When I am weary with the cost
I see the triumph of the cross
So in its shadow I shall run
Till You complete the work begun
Till You complete the work begun

One day all things will be made new I'll see the hope You called me to And in Your kingdom paved with gold I'll praise Your faithfulness of old I'll praise Your faithfulness of old

*BENEDICTION

LORD'S SUPPER OBSERVANCE

At Faith Covenant, the Lord's Supper is observed each Lord's Day as the climax of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders after the service. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ. We recommend the use of wine; however we offer both juice and wine in the tray to allow true liberty of conscience. The wine is located in the two outer rings and the juice is located in the center ring.

SERMON OUTLINE

March 30, 2014

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. Sermon Series: 1 Peter - Living as Exiles Sermon Title: *Honoring Christ*

I. Living beyond fear

II. Sharing our hope

III. Suffering well

SERMON TEXT 1 Peter 3:12-18(ESV)

12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.
¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,