

Statement of Faith – Racquel Tomacruz

I believe in one God eternally existent in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I believe in Jesus Christ's deity, the virgin birth, and Jesus' sinless life on earth. I believe in salvation by faith alone in Jesus Christ, whose finished work on Calvary is the redemptive sacrifice for sins (e.g. Romans 10:8-11; John 3:16; Hebrews 9:26-28; etc.). I believe in the Holy Spirit, who draws people to God, convicting, sanctifying, indwelling the believer, and giving spiritual growth (e.g. 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Titus 3:5).

I believe in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as the Word of God; the guide to matters of salvation, faith, and conduct (e.g. Hebrews 4:12-13; James 1:21-22). The Bible is God's written revelation to all people, showing His care and love as supremely shown in Jesus Christ as the way, truth and life (e.g. John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:30-31).

I am a prayerful minister committed to the importance of continual prayers, both private and group prayers. Coupled with humility before the Lord and humility before all persons, I believe prayer is a necessary support for all ministries (e.g. Ephesians 6:18-19; Ephesians 3:14-19; Colossians 1:9-11).

I am committed to the worship of the Triune God, during Sunday services as well as all other worship events of the church. And I am committed to sharing sermons and Bible studies based on His Word, doing preaching and teaching that promotes spiritual growth and which are practical to daily living (e.g. Acts 20:20-21; 1 Peter 1:22-25).

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 5:23). I believe in God's call for pastoral leaders (e.g., Ephesians 4:11-12), while I also affirm the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2: 4-5; 1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31). In that both pastoral leaders and all believers work together to build up the church, the Body of Christ (e.g. Ephesians 4:16). Each follower of the Lord, whether clergy or laity, can contribute to the overall work of the church.

23 I also believe in developing lay leaders in their areas of ministry, so that they grow in their leadership roles,
24 and in turn can help others become ministry leaders. I believe that Christians are to grow in service and love
25 to other people, grow in obedience and love to God, and live out their faith in all aspects of earthly life (e.g.
26 Galatians 5:22-25; Colossians 1:9-11).

27 I believe in ministry that addresses the whole person --- their spirit, soul, and body; serving people's material
28 or physical needs, as well as their spiritual needs (James 2:14-24). Doing practical good deeds for others, while
29 providing spiritual nurture. For example, just as the early Christians in Acts 6:1-7 helped with the daily
30 distribution of food to the widows, they also ministered to their spiritual growth (e.g. Acts 6:4). So today I
31 believe in continuing to do various good deeds for fellow believers and also to those in the outer community,
32 while at the same time sharing spiritual truths for the benefit of their souls.