

HCC

What We Believe

Our Mission

Our mission is to elevate Jesus through our worship and our lives, to engage with our community for the purpose of expanding God's Kingdom, and to equip one another to fulfill the purpose and ministry of each believer, HCC as a whole, and the universal Church.

What We Believe

We believe in one God, three-in-one, the divine trinity – God, the Father; God, the Son (Jesus), and God, the Holy Spirit. Each eternal, each fully God with the same divine attributes. (Matthew 3:16-17)

God, the Father

We believe God created all things and sustains all of creation. (Genesis 1:1)

Jesus Christ

Jesus was miraculously born of the Virgin Mary (Luke 1:35) and became flesh and blood (John 1:1-16, John 1:29-34) without ceasing to be God. He was and is fully God and fully man. He lived a sinless life, died on the cross as a perfect sacrifice, paying the debt for our sins (Mark 10:45). On the third day after his death he arose from the dead showing his victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:3-8). He appeared to his disciples and then ascended into heaven and now sits at the right hand of God serving as our mediator.

Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son. He convicts people of their sin and convinces them that Jesus is their Savior. (John 16:8-11). He indwells and empowers the believer (1 John 4:13, Galatians 5:16-26). His presence in our life is a seal and guarantee that we are God's children (2 Corinthians 1: 21-22). The Holy Spirit gives believers spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7-11, Romans 12:4-8) to be used to equip and edify others.

Salvation

Salvation is by grace alone by faith alone in Christ alone. Salvation is a free gift of God. The death of Christ on the cross is the only sufficient payment for our sins. All have sinned, but all can be saved. This salvation is available for any who put their trust in Christ as Savior (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, John 3:16). Those trusting Christ should repent of sin, confess their faith, and be baptized (Romans 10:9, Acts 2:38).

Church

The church is the Bride of Christ, founded on the day of Pentecost, consisting of all Christians everywhere. It is the Body of Christ on earth, empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue the task of reaching the lost and discipling the saved, helping them become fully devoted followers of Christ (Ephesians 4:1-16). All Christians should be active members of a local church. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Bible

The Bible is the inspired, infallible Word of God and is the final authority in life and doctrine at HCC. (2 Timothy 3:16)

Return of Christ

Christ will one day return and judge all people. (2 Thessalonians 1:8-10; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) Believers will be welcomed into God's presence in heaven. Unbelievers will be in hell, separated from God's presence.

Death and Eternity

Death seals the eternal destiny of each person. Those who die with faith in Christ will be saved and will inherit eternal life. Those who die apart from Christ, will be eternally separated from God in hell. (Romans 8:10-11; John 6:47; Revelation 20:11-15)

Our Distinctives

We hold the following theological positions which distinguish us from other local churches who affirm the same core beliefs.

Baptism

While we are saved by faith alone, we believe baptism is an act of obedience and an outward demonstration and expression of saving faith and the inward commitment to Christ. Baptism alone does not save but declares one's faith to others by water immersion. As evidenced in Scripture, baptism is an important part of becoming a follower of Jesus.

- Matthew 3:16-17
- 1 Peter 3:21
- Romans 6:17

Communion

Communion is a time to remember the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The bread symbolizes the body of Christ and the juice symbolizes His blood. We prepare to take the elements in a worthy manner by reflecting on and seeking forgiveness for sin and remembering what Christ has done for us. At HCC, we practice communion weekly.

- Matthew 26:26-28
- Luke 22:19

Men and Women

Men and women, created in the image of God, are absolutely equal in essence, dignity, value, and are distinct by divine design. As part of God's good, created order, men and women are to have different yet complementary roles and responsibilities in the home and church. As it relates to HCC, men and women are both expected to lead, teach, and serve; however, the offices of pastor, elder, and deacon are reserved for qualified men.

- Genesis 1:26
- 1 Timothy 3
- Titus 1

Marriage and Sexuality

We believe the Bible defines marriage as one man, one woman, for life. We further believe that intimate sexual activity is a sacred gift of God and intended to be celebrated only between a man and a woman who are married to each other.

- Mark 10:6-9
- 1 Corinthians 6:18
- 1 Corinthians 7:2-5
- Hebrews 13:4

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The gifts of the Holy Spirit that we see on display in the New Testament are still active within the life of the church today. These gifts did not end with the close of the New Testament or the death of the last apostle. We deny the suggestion that an experience of miraculous gifts is a sign of greater faith or a requirement for salvation. All believers are given gifts to be used for the building up of the church.

- 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
- 1 Peter 4:10

Making Disciples

We believe that all Christians are called by God to go and make disciples. We do so by sharing the gospel with those who do not believe and through teaching and sharing our lives with others to help them grow in their personal faith and to become a disciple-maker who also fulfills the Great Commission.

- Matthew 28:18-20
- 2 Timothy 2:2
- 1 Thessalonians 2:8

Works

According to Scripture, we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus alone. Good works do not save us. However, good works are evidence of a saving faith. We are not saved by good works but we are saved to do good works for the Kingdom.

- Ephesians 2:8-10
- James 2:14-19

Church Membership

Those desiring to be a member of HCC must make a public profession of faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior and must be baptized. HCC accepts baptism at other churches for membership.

We believe that the Bible instructs church members to:

- Meet together regularly for fellowship, worship, teaching, and the Lord's Supper. - Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:24-25
- Use our natural abilities and spiritual gifts to serve one another. - Romans 12:3-8; I Corinthians 12:12-31
- Love one another, bear with one another, accept one another, and forgive one another. - 1 Peter 4:8; Romans 14-15

- Seek unity, agreement, and peace with one another. - Matthew 5:23-24
- Encourage and build up one another. - Ephesians 4:29; Hebrews 3:13
- Bear one another's burdens and pray for one another. -Galatians 6:1-2; James 5:16
- Spur one another to love and good deeds. - Hebrews 10:24
- Submit to the authority of the elders of the church. - Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3; 1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 13:17
- Support the church financially. - 1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9
- Pursue personal holiness and obedience to God's Word. - 1 Peter 1:15; James 1:22-24
- Strive together to fulfill the Great Commission. - Matthew 28:18-20; Philippians 2:2