



West Vancouver Baptist Church

By-law 1 Statement of Faith

West Vancouver Baptist Church (“the church”) shall hold and teach doctrines and principles, which Baptist Churches have commonly held important, among which are:

- 1 Belief in one God, Creator of all, existing in three equal Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;
 [Genesis 1:1, John 10:30, John 4:24]
- 2 Belief that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are divinely inspired and, with the instructional help of the Holy Spirit, are sufficient authority in matters of belief and practise;
 [2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21]
- 3 Belief in the sinfulness of man and his dependency upon the mercy of God for salvation;
 [Genesis 1:26, Romans 3:9-23, Romans 5:12, Ephesians 2:1-3]
- 4 Belief in the incarnation of the Son of God, and His atonement for sin by sacrifice of Himself and His shed blood on Calvary’s cross, through which believers are freely justified by grace;
 [Ephesians 2:8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Romans 4:25, John 3:16, Romans 9:9-10]
- 5 Belief that the church universal, as the body of Christ, has as its objective to serve Christ as Lord and Saviour;
 [Hebrews 9:24, John 10:38, John 17, Galatians 4:4, 1 Timothy 3:16, 1 Corinthians 15: 20-23, 1 John 2:1]
- 6 Belief in the person return of the Lord Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the just and the unjust, the eternal reward of the righteous and the retribution of the unrighteous;
 [Acts 1:11, John 5:24,28-29, Luke 16:19-31, John 14: 1-3, 1 Corinthians 15:42-57, Revelation 20:11-15, Revelation 21:1-8, Revelation 22:12]
- 7 Belief that there are two principal ordinances to be observed by the church, as found in the New Testament:
 - a. Baptism- the immersion of the believer in water, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, whereby he or she obeys Christ’s command and sets forth his or her identity with Christ in his death, burial and resurrection. The ordinance is given to the Church to administer and commend to the believer;
 [Colossians 2:12, Romans 6:3-5, Acts 2: 38-41, Acts 8:35-39, Matthew 28:16-20]
 - b. The Lord’s Supper - the partaking by believers of bread and wine, which symbolizes the Lord’s body and shed blood, in the remembrance of Him, proclaiming His death until he comes. Believing Christians are invited to participate in this ordinance; [1 Corinthians 11; 23-24]
- 8 Belief in the separation of Church and State and acknowledgement that God ordains the powers that be, for the good order of society.
 [Romans 13: 1, 2 Timothy 2:1-3, 1 Peter 2:13-18]