



## Statement of Faith

NW Hope-Net is a 501(c)3 non-profit, faith-based ministry that works with churches in East King County to address the needs of the poor, the homeless, widows and orphans, and individuals with special needs. As a collaboration of Christian Churches and individual believers from all over east King County, we represent a diverse range of denominations. Though we may all have our different creeds within the Body of Christ; though we may fiercely and passionately hold to the tenets of our respective denominations; though we may look very different from one another in the various styles with which we worship our God; we all still serve the same God and preach the same message of salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; that not of our own works, but it is the gracious gift of God. It is this Gospel – otherwise known as the Good News – which unites us and calls us to extend hands across denominational borders so that, together, we might lift up and glorify the God of our salvation.

Because we come from many different Christian churches, our denominational Statements of Faith may differ in part from those listed below; but generally speaking, we – the united Body of Christian Believers in East king County – hold these tenets to be true:

### **The Scriptures**

We believe the Bible, composed of the Old and New Testaments, to be the verbally inspired word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible, complete, and God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12, 13).

### **The Godhead**

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—co-eternal in being, co-eternal in nature, co-equal in power and glory, having the same attributes and perfections (Deuteronomy 6:4; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

### **The Person and Work of Jesus**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man (John 1:1–2, 14; Luke 1:35). We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice—and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead (Romans 3:24; 1 Peter 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3–5). We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry as Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate (Acts 1:9, 10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:24; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1–2). We believe Jesus is coming again to judge the living and the dead (1 Peter 4:5; Romans 14:9; 2 Timothy 4:1).

### **The Person and Work of The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8–11; 2 Corinthians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 12:12–14; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18).

### **The Total Depravity of Man**

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that through Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; man is totally depraved and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26, 27; Romans 3:22, 23; 5:12; Ephesians 2:1–3, 12).

### **Salvation**

We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins (Ephesians 2:8–10; John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18–19).

### **Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers**

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 6:37–40; 10:27–30; Romans 8:1, 38, 39; 1 Corinthians 1:4–8; 1 Peter 1:5). We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for the flesh (Romans 13:13, 14; Galatians 5:13; Titus 2:11–15).

### **The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts**

We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowing of spiritual gifts. It is, however, the believer's responsibility to attempt to develop their God-given spiritual gift(s). We believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accordance with His own will, for the sick and afflicted (John 15:7; 1 John 5:14, 15). We believe that it is the privilege and responsibility of every believer to minister according to the gift(s) and grace of God that is given to him (Romans 12:1–8; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 Peter 4:10–11).

### **The Church**

We believe that the church, which is the body and espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 5:25–27; 1 Corinthians 12:12–14; 2 Corinthians 11:2). We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:27; 18:22; 20:17; 1 Timothy 3:1–3; Titus 1:5–11). We believe in the autonomy of the local churches, free of any external authority and control (Acts 13:1–4; 15:19–31; 20:28; Romans 16:1,4; 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16; 1 Corinthians 5:4–7, 13; 1 Peter 5:1–4). We recognize believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper as scriptural means of testimony for the church (Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42; Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26).

### **Conclusion**

Therefore, in the light of this our common faith, we enter into a joyous co-laboring with God and with each other to pray, to plan, and to work together for the advancement of His Kingdom throughout our cities and neighborhoods. We call upon others to join us. May God help us by His grace and for His glory to be faithful to this our resolve! Amen!