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AT THE 2001 FISCAL SUPPORT TEAM RETREAT, Lead Pastor Dennis McCallum articulated the vision for Xenos: Xenos sees itself as a grassroots indigenous house-church planting movement.

**GRASSROOTS MEANS OUR GROWTH IS PRIMARILY THROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS, NOT THROUGH LARGE WORSHIP SERVICES OR SEEKERS MEETINGS.**

It also implies the leaders of home churches are all lay people (i.e. they are not professionals, but “tentmakers”). Even when staff members lead home groups, they receive no compensation for that part of their ministry. A church-planting movement is a grassroots movement, not a staff-driven one.

**INDIGENOUS MEANS THE LEADERSHIP FOR THE HOME CHURCHES HAS TO COME FROM WITHIN THE HOME CHURCHES VIA A PROCESS OF PERSONAL DISCIPLESHIP.**

Xenos leaders would ask even experienced leaders from other churches to spend time in a home church—in order to become one of the trusted leaders in that group—before sending them out with their own group.

**HOUSE-CHURCH PLANTING MOVEMENT MEANS THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH GROUPS—IF CARRIED OUT PROPERLY—SHOULD LEAD TO MULTIPLICATION OR EXPONENTIAL GROWTH, UNLIKE PLANS WHERE A CENTRAL OFFICE ARRANGES GROUPS FROM LISTS OF APPLICANTS AND LEADERS.**

In a church-planting movement, the impetus for planting churches comes from within each group. Church planting also implies groups are relatively self-sufficient for ministry, as opposed to groups dependent on program-heavy worship services or the central leadership of the church.

Aside from this main thrust are programs the church operates to support the planting movement. These include our Central Teachings, our excellent student outreach ministries and children’s ministries, our award-winning inner-city ministry and world missions.

**GOOD NEWS TO REPORT**

Once again this year, Xenos elders and management team members spent many hours assessing our progress along all these lines through our planning process.
We were very pleased at what we found:

- Home churches grew in attendance by more than 13 percent.
- Mission-sending rose by the largest number ever (bringing us to around 40 accredited full-time missionaries supported mostly by Xenos).
- Student ministries repaired their problems of a lack of adult volunteer workers, resulting in outstanding growth in student home groups (nearly 30 percent).
- This fall, all-ages attendance at large meetings went over 4,000 for the first time in Xenos history.

**STILL SOME WORK TO DO**

Along with the encouraging news that God is powerfully blessing our ministries, were some negative findings:

- Adult Central Teachings are not growing at the same rate as our home churches. This means our incorporation rate continues to soar—actual home group attendance (not names on rosters) is 95 percent of that in large meetings from junior high through adult.

  However, the trend is concerning. The elders are convinced if people stop coming to the large meetings, the church will experience a number of difficulties, including disunity and lessened interaction of home groups outside their own groups.

- Finance was another area of bad news. For a number of reasons, some large donors were unable to deliver their pledges this year, and others fell short as well.

  The result was a $300,000 shortfall in actual giving compared to budgeted giving. Fortunately, this trend was caught early enough in the year.

  Management team was able to reduce spending below budgeted levels, resulting in only $150,000 in actual red ink for the year.

- Urban Concern continued to struggle with outside funding as well. After filling the vacancy of development director this year, leadership believes the situation will keep improving, but continues to worry about possible program cutbacks.

  The Fiscal Support Team responded to these financial difficulties by voting in a very conservative 5.2-percent budget increase for 2002 (considering the church grew by more than 13 percent).

**2002 LOOKS HOPEFUL**

Looking at the big picture, we should feel very happy.

As long as personal spiritual growth, discipleship and evangelism continue to flourish as they are now, we can only anticipate fantastic ministry fruit in the future.

Also important: our dream of a true, self-replicating, house-church movement remains alive and well!
SUMMARY OF 2001

2001 was a solid year of providing infrastructure support for all of the ministry accomplished by the other divisions you read about in this report.

Without responsiveness and flexibility from Operations, the rest of the church’s work cannot be carried forward as efficiently and effectively. This ethic pervades each department in our division, and it means we learn many lessons in adapting to changing conditions and modifications to goals outside of our control.

From winter snows that must be shoveled; to the spring retreat our elders hold to hone their leadership; to the massive undertaking of the Xenos Summer Institute, Community Festival, Fellowship-Wide Retreat and the myriad events held on site—our division resources are there.

A few highlights of 2001 include:

- Derf Braun led church staff and subcontractors, as we completed a 6,000-square-foot addition to our Main Campus facility. In December, we started to experience the fruits of increased lobby space and are quite pleased with the results.

- Andy Ault, our Information Systems “business” expert, devoted the majority of his time to developing the systems that make it possible to manage our workloads.

- Andy Leedy and Judy Davis provide the support in the trenches of daily activity. We now maintain over 250 PCs and laptops across the church, Urban Concern and our schools.

  What a year of computer viruses to battle—we seem truly at war sometimes.

- Our accounting stewards (Alan Burkholder, with Cate Gilbert and Scot Northrup) continued service to our complex church.

Steve Bauer,
Division Coordinator
This year, every month we paid more than 230 people, posted more than 5,000 accounting entries and generated more than 350 checks to service providers. We serve 54 departments.

■ The GIFT (personal finance) Ministry Team provides a key service to scores of church members as they try to make godly decisions about their finances.

■ Mark Grover, with Jeremy Myers, served an ever-increasing list of events and facility users, with expert support of sound and video systems. On a weekly basis, we prioritize our Central Teachings as our #1 “internal customer.” The Xenos Summer Institute and our Vacation Bible School are events that require an incredible amount of behind-the-scenes support from these men and their outstanding volunteers, to deliver the high quality you see.

■ Our Office Services Team, headed by Cathy Kaiser, performed its usual doing-the-impossible support. Our staff, church members and visitors to the office can count on getting to the right places and people consistently. This area really reflects the ethos we want to have—practically showing God’s love and concern for people.

■ Our Facilities Plant Superintendent, Dave Bucklew, is the expert behind our use of 80,000 square feet of facilities on Community Park Drive. Our 65.5 acres of property are functional and beautiful, thanks to Dan Mayner’s crew. Our Facility Manager at Calumet Christian School, Dan Pettit, provided daily support there. We added new property adjacent to our campus, this summer, just east of Building X.

The list goes on, but this gives you a feel for the breadth of work in Operations.

In addition, we are constantly initiating policies to safeguard our assets and legal status. We oversee all critical elements of human resource management. Through this and more, Operations is proud of the ethos we maintain and what we have accomplished.

**PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002**

Our overall view of 2002 is that we will do all we have done in the past and add more support for our cell-based church and its necessary programs.

We will accomplish this with the same resources and budget as in 2001. We will not have the single large project as we have had in 2001 with our lobby expansion, but our core service needs grow yearly.

More than ever, we will be forced to look at how we do things, minimizing costs and what we prioritize with the question, “How does this fit in with furthering the church’s goals?”
COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Community Relations Division strives to motivate, equip, and provide opportunities for Christians to demonstrate and communicate Christ’s love.

SUMMARY OF 2001

It might help you to know what Community Relations does:

- Central Teachings;
- oversees 14 home groups who have focused interests;
- promotes and administers the logistics of the Xenos Summer Institute;
- *Xenos News, Weekly Update*;
- provides opportunities to meet people: Conversation & Cuisine, PlayGroups, GameTime, Soccer Clinic, VBS Café, parenting seminars and more;
- administers our Web site (www.xenos.org);
- shares our resources: Bookstore, Web and direct sales through books, audio tapes and CDs;
- baptisms;
- deck parties after Central Teachings;
- video production;
- develops relationships with churches and other Christian organizations.

Here are some highlights from 2001:

- Adult Central Teachings now enjoy balanced attendance across all four meetings, thanks to you! Many home groups have participated by making changes to achieve this important balance—important because we would like to get the most out of our present facility before building again!
  
  Thanks to the Operations Division, and especially to Derf Braun, for the phenomenal work in building the Atrium.
  
  Overall growth in the Central Teachings was slow this fall. We hope home group members are not losing sight of the importance of participating in Central Teachings.

- Our 14 home groups showed very little growth this year. These same groups showed a significant drop in first-time guests. This drop in guests may indicate a loss of vision for sharing the love of God with the world. We are confident in God’s desire and power to restore this vision.

- The Xenos Summer Institute, which is open to churches worldwide, almost doubled in non-Xenos attendees. This group grew from 186 in 2000 to 365 in 2001, with more than 1,500 total attendance. God has richly blessed us with teaching, training and home group resources. We have a responsibility to share these resources with people outside our church, and we are grateful God is blessing this ministry.

- Few things are more exciting than hearing new Christians share how they have come to know God, and how he has impacted their lives. More than 150 new Christians shared their exciting stories this year when they were baptized!
The Xenos News had its intended impact: the majority of the many Xenos mailings are now part of this attractive and informative publication. Timely communication is essential in a church of our size. Laura Avers (Managing Editor), Chris Kavinsky (Art Director) and our contributing writers keep us on top of what God is doing throughout Xenos.

The book table is now a Bookstore! Whether you are investigating Christianity or developing your relationship with Christ, you have twice the resources compared to last year. Coleen Ross, Laura Mayner and Jay Reilly have worked hard to develop this ministry.

**PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002**

- We will help adult home groups remain focused on sharing the message of Christ. The drop in guests to our adult home groups rubs against the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Prayer and godly efforts will help reverse this. We also suggest home groups attend the Sharing Your Faith class, and we have plans, thanks to the Fiscal Support Team, to help promote this essential class.
- We want to help home groups convert the expanded lobby space (6,000 more square feet) into higher-quality hang out time after Central Teachings. By adjusting the format of our meetings, expanding our deck parties and providing a broader range of services, we hope to provide an atmosphere more conducive to fellowship and hospitality.
- We will improve navigation on our ever-expanding Web site, so users can access its resources more efficiently.
- Interaction with other Christian organizations has an “iron-sharpens-iron” effect. We will continue to share our resources and learn from others.
- The Kids Expo teaches children about world missions. We will host this event for the Caleb Project on April 11-13.
- We will host Ken Sande’s Peacemaker Conference on conflict resolution—a critical skill for Christian ministry and relationships—on November 1-2.
- Xenos’ Summer Institute will focus on leadership development this year (July 24-26). Last year we invited other local church and ministry leaders to share their expertise, and we’ll do the same again this year.

What is your vision for your life in 2002? How will you respond to God’s love? Will you begin a relationship with him by accepting his offer of forgiveness? Will your gratitude motivate you to be God’s witness in word and deed?

The Community Relations staff prays we all grow in our relationships with God, leading to positive change in our lives and the lives of those with whom we interact.
The Equipping Division provides educational resources for Christians to understand and apply biblical truth to their lives, and to prepare for a fruitful ministry.

**SUMMARY OF 2001**

2001 has been another great year for Xenos and the Equipping Division. Your support has helped class enrollment reach new highs.

We’re also poised to begin our master’s degree program. Please join us in thanking God for what he is doing in this division and in our church!

During 2001, we were able to enhance our ability to train future teachers and leaders in several ways:

- **New Teachers and Teachers in Training.** John Cleary and Tracy Glover were trained to join our Servanthood staff, along with Gary DeLashmutt. This means Servanthood students will enjoy smaller class sizes and more interaction with their instructors in 2002. Mary Beth Gladwell trained to teach Christian Principles starting in 2002.

  Busy weekday schedules were no longer an obstacle for Principles students, thanks to Mark Bair’s Saturday morning Christian Principles section.

- **Seeking Christ in the Classroom.** Several students began relationships with God while attending Basic Christianity. We’re finding adults often feel comfortable learning about the claims of Christ in a classroom environment.

- **Bible Seminar Graduates.** Ten students completed Jim Leffel’s seminar—a year-long, seminary-level survey of the Old and New Testaments. This training opportunity enriched leaders and staff members involved a variety of Xenos ministries, including Oasis, the high school ministry, missions, equipping, adult home groups and our college ministry.

- **Changes at Study Center.** Marcy McCall became our new Study Center director in October, replacing Peggy Fein who had served as director since 1996. Both have done a great job.

  We took steps to protect our collection by tagging books for our new security system, making back-up copies of videos, and digitizing papers and teaching outlines.

- **Master’s Degree Program.** Almost 200 people in Xenos expressed interest in taking seminary-level classes through our new extension site. Many more from churches in the Columbus area are interested in our new program as well.

- **2001 Xenos Summer Institute.** Pastors from cities beyond Columbus were a big presence at the 2001 Xenos Summer Institute. More than 360 workers and pastors from churches in the US, Ireland, Brazil, Canada, and the Czech Republic joined us for the 2001 Summer Institute!
Attendees were treated to a variety of perspectives on cell-based ministry. Mark Ashton’s workshop on seeker small groups was a hit, and conference attendance reached an all-time high.

**PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002**

- **Study Center Enhancements.** Budget cuts in 2001 slowed the acquisition of new materials needed to prepare for our master’s degree program. In 2002, we hope to make up lost ground by purchasing several key resources including periodic indexes on CD-ROM, new book shelves, tape storage units and reference works.

- **More Classes.** Tom Dixon and Mary Beth Gladwell will join our Christian Principles staff, further reducing class sizes. Matt Boone will offer the long-awaited Men in Marriage class, a counterpart to Mary Beth Gladwell’s class for women.

- **Master’s Degree Program.** The introduction of the M.A. program brings us another step closer to our goal of becoming a regional resource for Christian training. In 2002, we will begin our first phase of the master’s degree program—distance education classes.

  Through a special arrangement with Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, we will be able to offer classes for credit toward a master’s degree for only $180 per credit hour.

  Jeff Gordon, Xenos elder, will teach “Introduction to the Old Testament” starting February 19.

- **Developing Powerful Servant Leaders in Your Small Groups—Xenos Summer Institute, July 24-26, 2002!** Our growing network of home groups needs a steady supply of growing leaders. What an opportunity to equip future leaders in our church!

  Featured speakers will be authors Bill Lawrence; Bruce Powers; and Lance Witt, Pastor of Spiritual Maturity at Saddleback Church.

  Twenty workshops will cover a variety of topics including a comparison of leadership development models used at Xenos, Saddleback and Dallas Theological Seminary.

  Mark Ashton will offer an encore presentation of his popular workshop, Leading Seeker Small Groups.

Mike Sullivan,
Division Coordinator
I am grateful God has made Xenos stronger and more effective, even in times of economic uncertainty. Despite how life may have changed since September 11, he has not changed; his mission has not changed; and with your support, our commitment has not changed.

The ministries of Xenos Missions continue to make an eternal difference in the lives of people here and overseas. Those of us serving you in the Missions Division are grateful God uses our church so powerfully. Moreover, we are thankful you support this work so generously.

Here are some of the 2001 Missions highlights:

- We sent the Feltzes to Southeast Asia.
- We accredited a two-couple team for Cambodia.
- We sent two newly accredited missionary couples to language school to learn Russian.
- We gave more than $52,000 to foreign relief and development projects.
- We gave more than $43,000 to support non-Xenos missionaries.
- We added a third grade at Harambee Christian School.
- Harambee Christian School SAT scores averaged better than the 50th percentile. (Most kids started below the 10th percentile.)
- Three out of four Urban Concern high school graduates enrolled in college.
- Urban Concern junior and senior high cell groups grew by 50 percent.
- We added more missions home group representatives and increased Missions Mobilization membership by 102 percent.
- 69 people participated in four different short-term mission trips.
- We visited the Brazil and SEAsia teams.

Dave Merker,
Division Coordinator
PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002

We are excited about next year’s Missions Division goals. We are confident you will be as well.

Here are some of our goals for 2002:

- Hire a part-time administrative assistant.
- Send two couples to Southeast Asia, two couples to Eastern Europe and two couples to Cambodia.
- Add a fourth grade at Harambee Christian School.
- Increase Harambee Christian School students’ reading competency by 1.25 grade levels, and math competency by one grade level.
- See the Urban Concern Bible studies grow by 5 percent.
- Arrive at a five-year strategic plan for Urban Concern.
- Enhance the care we give our missionaries by making a third missions house available, visiting the Eastern Europe teams, improving communication and reporting, etc.
- Help fund field team projects designed to serve practical needs.
- Coordinate a short-term missions trip to Cambodia.
- Recruit more workers for the Cambodia team.
- Send James and Beth back to Brazil for another term of service.

“Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased” (Hebrews 13:15,16).
SUMMARY OF 2001

Pastoral Division’s 78 home groups saw very good growth this year.

Our goal is typically 10 percent attendance growth, but we exceeded that with 13.9 percent growth (comparing December 2001 attendance of 1,629 to December 2000 attendance of 1,430), or 12.1 percent (comparing an average of the 12 months in 2001 at 1,477 with the average of 12 months in 2000 at 1,318).

We had hoped to plant nine new groups in 2001, but we planted only six. The overall forward momentum in the church toward home group planting was encouraging.

Having a number of groups planting each year is a reliable indicator of our obedience to Christ’s Great Commission to us (Matthew 28:18-20). This is because successful home group plants require both effective sharing of God’s love with the world and mentoring of new Christians.

Here are some other developments in 2001:

- Home Group Connection received 548 inquiries for home group involvement from Central Teachings, and made 346 referrals of people to home groups.
- Our Home Group oversight staff (supervised by Danny Walker) now includes the following part-time workers: Lee Campbell, Connie Rue, John McKewen, Laura Gordon, Kendall Triplett, John Cleary and Phil Franck.
- Bev DeLashmutt joined Katey Downs and Kevin Furno as a part-time counselor. Bev counsels three to five times a week, mostly with young women and couples.
- “Sexual Integrity” branched out to minister to women whose lives are touched by pornography, and held sessions to train leaders on how to help men and women with pornography.

Phil Franck, Division Coordinator
The Servant Team grew by 49 new members, for a total of 675 deacons. This means effective mentoring and leadership training is happening at the home group level.

Martha McCallum joined the Pastoral Division to work with couples and men on deeper spiritual leadership.

The Fellowship-Wide Retreat was held at Hoover-Y Camp for the first time, and served us well.

**PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002**

- We would like to see a net increase of 11 home groups by the end of 2002. We are also stressing the option of doing “3-for-2” type plants, in which two home groups combine efforts to plant a third group between them.

- As we see the home churches continue to grow and multiply, we are considering different ways of helping oversee home group leaders.
  
  One such way is the “Joint Leader Fireside,” where a handful of leaders meet together with their consultant and provide synergetic counsel.

  Also, Elder Jody Kear and a few experienced home group leaders will work together in overseeing a limited number of home groups. This program will be similar to the old “sphere” meetings the elders employed in the 1980s and early 1990s.

- In conjunction with the Community Relations Division, we are actively urging home group leaders to take the Sharing Your Faith class. Because the number of first-time guests to home churches was down this year, there is a need for re-focusing on evangelism.

- We will also experiment with doing six short-term “Outreach Small Groups.” This model involves a group leader who responds to questions generated by seekers who attend the four-week group.

- We would like to see at least 100 people begin relationships with Christ through the Pastoral Division’s home groups in 2002. Home Group Connection will also experiment with various means of making the group referral process a bit more personal and relational.

- We will urge certain home groups and small Bible study groups to take advantage of Outdoor Adventure Ministry for a unifying and encouraging retreat.

- The number of Servant Team meetings is shifting up from two to three per year, and the number of Open Servant Team bashes is reducing from two to one per year.

- We expect to see an increase in the number of couples and individuals helped by the Counseling Department this year.

- 40 to 50 more people are expected to qualify for the Servant Team this year.
SUMMARY OF 2001

■ In 2001, most of my efforts were focused on upgrading our Web site and overall communications within our church, including the rollout of our new monthly newspaper, the Xenos News.

■ An additional focus was further enhancing our church-wide reporting for the Planning Retreat—working with the other division coordinators and Andy Ault, Director of Information Systems.

This was the second year for the new comprehensive format, and provided valuable year-to-year trend comparisons to help the elders quickly assess key measures for health and growth in the church.

■ We also brought back a highly regarded church consultant, Carolyn Weese, to help the elders and Management Team with our direction for the next three to five years.

She has been instrumental in helping us make strategic decisions in the past, and once again provided a sounding board for various organizational and ministry approaches as part of an otherwise routine checkup.
PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002

■ There is little new 2002 funding needed for Quality Initiatives, and work on key projects will move ahead on a smaller base budget while I complete the Bible Seminar.

■ One of my top priorities will be assisting Urban Concern with developing a five-year plan for building their ministry to the poor.

This plan includes expanding the Harambee Christian School, from kindergarten through fifth grade.

I see a number of opportunities to better tap the resources of Xenos to help with this ministry, including the families and friends of people within our church.

■ I also will formulate a contingency plan for a fifth Central Teaching meeting to accommodate growth.

All Central Teachings Average Attendance, including college meetings (Up 5%)

Home Group Incorporation

Churchwide Average Monthly Attendance All Ages (Up 4%)
From September 2000 to September 2001, student ministries experienced solid growth in weekly attendance. From junior high through college, both large and home group meeting attendance grew about 20 percent. Much of this growth consisted of new students learning about Jesus Christ’s love and forgiveness and beginning relationships with him.

We thank God for this kind of growth, and we ask him to raise up dozens of mature Christian leaders from within our ranks.

We also thank God for providing numerous Adopt-A-Cell workers. Our ministry was in crisis last year as we faced worker shortages.

Since then, dozens of workers answered the call and became involved in Adopt-A-Cell. Adopt-a-Cell allows college and adult cell groups to adopt specific junior and senior high school Bible study (cell) groups by sending some of their workers to student cell groups.

This program succeeded in stabilizing several groups and enabling many more to grow and multiply. Although this program does not completely resolve worker shortages, it goes a long way toward helping.

In addition, three more paid college teams were mobilized to teach and lead their own high school home churches.

In this arrangement, college students teach, mentor, administrate and help the high school students with outreach and follow-up.

All of this is done without any older adults doing the work! Please pray for these young college teams.

Joe Botti,
Division Coordinator
Other highlights from 2001 include:

- Oasis accommodated the rapid shift in Saturday and Sunday night Central Teaching attendance.
- Xenos Schools met the growing enrollment by hiring several new and experienced teachers, including a much-needed Middle School Director.
- The junior high school ministry began a new Saturday night Blow Out.
- The high school ministry started four new cell groups and three new home churches.
- The College ministry accommodated 50 percent more Central Teaching attendance by renovating the basement into a progressive coffee shop, which also serves as excellent overflow seating.
- 140 students participated in one of five regional and three overseas mission trips.

PRIMARY GOALS FOR 2002

- Improve Oasis volunteer recruiting program to avoid last-minute understaffing of classrooms.
- Meet the growing enrollment for all three Xenos School locations by providing adequate staffing and facility requirements.
- Cultivate an adequate work force to start 13 additional junior and senior high home groups or cell groups.
- Plant two more college home churches, for a total of 13.
- With your prayers and God’s grace, we can continue reaching non-Christian students for Christ while developing workers and leaders for his church.
In 2001, Xenos was blessed with another year of growth in the financial resources God has entrusted to us. However, we also experienced a deficit in contributions.

An aggressive 17.1-percent-budget-increase vote by the Fiscal Support Team for 2001 proved unattainable. We fell short in collections by $300,000, or 7 percent of our total budget. At the same time, division coordinators met their goals in 2001 while spending under their budgets by about $150,000.

The December Fiscal Support Team Retreat targeted an overall 2002 budget of just under $5 million, or a 5.18 percent increase over the 2001 budget.

Final budget pends the results of our annual January pledge campaign. The following is a high-level division summary of financial information for 2001 and 2002.

### 2001 AND 2002 FST-APPROVED BUDGET

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Fiscal-Support-Team-Approved Budget for 2002 in millions (Up 1%)
STATEMENT OF FAITH

Xenos Christian Fellowship encourages people of all beliefs and persuasions to investigate what the Bible teaches. There is no official membership at Xenos. However, we consider a number of biblical doctrines to be central to our faith and vital to the integrity of all aspects of our ministry. We affirm significant historic creeds of the church, such as the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed.

THE BIBLE
The Bible is the inspired word of God. The 66 books that constitute the Bible are entirely reliable and truthful, and the Bible stands as the central authority over our lives, our faith and the direction of our church. We are committed to standard formulations of biblical inspiration such as the “Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy.” (2 Timothy 3:16; Matthew 5:18)

THE TRINITY
Three persons eternally share the Divine Nature. The Bible refers to these persons as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. God is both self-existent and personal. (John 14:10, 26; 15:26)

JESUS CHRIST
Jesus Christ, the Son, is fully God and fully human. He lived a sinless life, died for the sins of humankind, was resurrected bodily on the third day, ascended into heaven and is coming again as King and Judge. Jesus Christ is the only provision God has given for people to be reconciled to Him. Jesus’ life on earth also serves as the model for the Christian life. (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)

HOLY SPIRIT
The Holy Spirit is God. He indwells us at the moment we place our faith in Christ. He empowers us to live an effective Christian life by affirming our salvation, encouraging us and giving us the strength to live a life that is pleasing to God and personally fulfilling. The Holy Spirit also endows each believer with a unique spiritual ability to serve the church and the world. (John 14:16; Ephesians 1:19-20; 1 Corinthians 12)

SALVATION
Salvation is reconciliation with God through the atoning work of Jesus Christ. God offers us salvation by His grace alone and we receive it as a gift through personal faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ. This right standing before God must be received and cannot be earned. God freely offers salvation to all people, and our salvation is secure. (Ephesians 2:8, 9; Romans 8:38, 39; Ephesians 1:13; 2:4)
HUMANITY

Human beings are created in the image of God. As such, we are unique among all of God’s creation. Through the abuse of our God-given free will, we have turned against God and this has resulted in spiritual death for all humankind.

Humanity lives in a state of alienation and profound need which can only be satisfied by reconciliation with God through Christ. Without this reconciliation, all people stand under God’s righteous judgment.

Humanity, although fallen, maintains the image of God and is, therefore, still dignified and unique. God continues to love us and reach out to us, even though we are hostile to him. Believers in Jesus Christ receive a new nature that becomes the foundation for a process of transformation. (John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

THE CHURCH

The church is composed of all people throughout history who place saving faith in Jesus Christ. The church is not an institution, but a people. God wants all Christians to live out their spiritual lives in a corporate context.

This context of Christian love relationships is a crucial feature of our witness for Christ as it reflects God’s character to the world. The church is God’s chosen instrument through which the message of salvation is spread to all people.

This mission is the central purpose for the church. We are to carry the good news locally and worldwide and demonstrate the gospel by relevant social action. (John 13:34, 35; 1 Corinthians 12:12-26; Matthew 28:19)

SATAN

Satan is the personal, spiritual adversary of God and God’s followers. Satan actively opposes the work of the church and the spiritual vitality of Christians. We therefore take seriously, but in a balanced way, the reality of personal, spiritual opposition. Satan is doomed to final defeat and judgment when Christ returns. (Ephesians 6:12; Revelation 20)

SECOND COMING

This age will conclude with the personal, bodily return of Christ. At that time, He will complete God’s plan to reestablish His just and righteous rule over all humanity. (Matthew 24:29-31; Revelation 20)

THE AFTERLIFE

At the final judgment, God will determine those who will receive eternal life and those who will live in eternal judgment. Therefore, there is an urgency to the message of the gospel because eternal issues are at stake. (Matthew 25:46; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10)