



>> **We Believe...**

The Church in the New Testament was “devoted to the Apostle’s teaching”. Our hope as a Church is to continue in this devotion. Our longing is to be a biblical church, and that places us in several historical streams.

>> **The Gospel Stream...**

We believe that the gospel changes everything.

The message of the gospel is that Christ has done what is necessary to bring us into a relationship with God. That means that our sinfulness does not count against us and it also means that our religious efforts does not count for us. The good news is that Christ hasn’t given us a philosophy or list of rules to follow, but that He has given us Himself. His life of perfect obedience is credited to and changes all that repent and believe.

We believe the gospel as taught in Scripture.

We not only believe that the Scriptures are true, but that through them God is “at work in those who believe” (I Thessalonians 2:13). It is also through the Scripture that God changes the hearts of those unconvinced of the truth of the gospel. Therefore, the Bible isn’t just to be held in high regard, it is to be used in every aspect of life.

We believe the gospel as lived out in the Church.

The Christian faith is not something that can be lived out alone. The Christian is called to live within a very special community—the Church. We taste the life of heaven together. We face our struggles together. But the glory of this distinct community is not her people. Her glory is her redeemer, Christ the Lord! Because Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her, we are then delighted to gather under her care. (Red Mountain Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America.)

We believe in the gospel of the kingdom.

The historic message of Christianity is unchanging, though the setting of our ministry constantly changes. But, in any context, we believe that the gospel speaks to the whole person, whether religious or irreligious, and that it can transform any place, bringing the healing and restoration of Christ’s Kingdom. Jesus said, “I am making all things new!” (Revelation 21) The Church is the institution through which God is building His kingdom and is renewing every aspect of life. Every Christian has a unique calling and a unique giftedness to serve others in his or her community. Christians should demonstrate this by serving others and working with excellence, for God’s glory, in all that they do.

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We believe the gospel with God at it's center.

Our great confidence is that Jesus said that He would build His Church. Our hope is not in ourselves nor in our abilities but in the goodness and grace of God. We are not called to “get things started”, but rather to recognize and participate in what God is already doing in our city.

>> **The Reformation Stream...**

The particular Church to which we belong can be characterized by two terms: Reformed and Presbyterian.

“Reformed” means that the way we express our faith was greatly influenced by the Reformation of the 16th century. A number of confessional statements grew out of this movement. Ours is called the Westminster Confession of Faith.

“Presbyterian” refers to the way our Church is governed. It is based on the New Testament idea that God’s people are to be under the care and oversight of “elders”. Locally, each Presbyterian Church is shepherded by a group of elders called the “session”. But, we are not independent churches, but a connected church. Each local congregation is part of a regional body called a “presbytery”, and finally a national body called the “general assembly”. (See the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America.)

>> **The Catholic Stream...**

God is forming His Church from “every tongue, tribe, and nation”. We recognize that we are part of the communion of the saints, the holy, catholic (universal) church. Red Mountain Church is only one local embodiment of this universal church. As an expression of this union, we hold to historic confessions common to all Christians such as the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed.