



## **ALARM Statement of Faith**

*May 2014*

### **WE BELIEVE IN:**

- The authority and inerrancy of Scripture: We believe that all "Scripture is given by inspiration of God" and extends equally and fully to all parts of the writings, as they appear in the original manuscripts. We believe that the whole Bible in the originals is without error (1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16).
- The Trinity: We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - and that these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes, and perfections, and worthy of precisely the same homage, confidence, and obedience (Matthew 28:18-19; 2 Corinthians 13:13).
- The full deity and humanity of Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus was born of a virgin, and received a human body and a sinless human nature. He became and remained a perfect man, and was sinless throughout His life. He retained His absolute deity, being at the same time very God and very man (Luke 2:40; John 1:1-2; Philippians 2:5-8).
- The total depravity and the spiritual lostness of the human race: We believe that man was originally created in the image and after the likeness of God, and that he fell through sin, and, as a consequence of his sin, lost his spiritual life, becoming dead in trespasses and sins, and that he became subject to the power of the devil. We believe that this spiritual death, or total depravity of human nature, has been transmitted to the entire human race of man, the Man Christ Jesus alone being excepted; and hence that every child of Adam is born into the world with a nature which not only possesses no spark of divine life, but is essentially and unchangeably sinful apart from divine grace (Genesis 1:26; Romans 3:10-19; 8:6-7; Ephesians 2:1-3).
- The substitutionary atonement and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ: We believe that according to the Scriptures Jesus Christ died for our sin and arose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He had lived and died, and that His resurrection body is the pattern of that body which ultimately will be given to all believers (John 20:20; Philippians 3:20-21).
- Salvation by faith alone in Jesus Christ alone: We believe that no one can enter the kingdom of God unless born again and that no degree of merit can be gained or earned to help the sinner to take even one step toward heaven; but a new nature imparted from above, a new life implanted by the Holy Spirit through the Word, is absolutely essential to salvation. The new birth of the believer comes only through faith in Jesus Christ (John 3:7-18; Romans 5:6-9).
- The assurance of salvation: We believe it is the privilege of all who are born again by the Spirit through faith in Christ to be assured of their salvation from the very day they take

Him to be their Savior and that this assurance is based wholly upon the testimony of God in His written Word (Luke 10:20; 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-8).

- The Christian walk: We believe that we are called with a holy calling, to walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit, and so to live in the power of the indwelling Spirit that we will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (Romans 6:11-13; 8:2, 4, 12-13; Galatians 5:16-23).
- The physical return of Christ: We believe that the present age will be climaxed by the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth as He went, to restore Israel to her own land and to give her the realization of God's covenant promises and to bring the whole world to the knowledge of God (Deuteronomy 30:1-10; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Matthew 24:15-25; Revelation 20:1-3).
- Marriage is an institution created by God: We believe that God designed marriage to model Christ's love for the church through the covenant between one man and one woman pledging to be faithful to each other by vows of permanence and exclusivity. It is a union of will and body inherently ordered to procreation and the broad sharing of family life (Genesis 2:18-24; Matthew 19:5-6; Ephesians 5:21-33; 1 Timothy 3:2, 12).

## **CORE VALUES**

We are:

- Convinced that without strong pastoral leadership, the African church will remain superficial, syncretistic, and without true transformation, spiritual growth, and maturity.
- Committed to empower the African Church, equipping pastors and leaders to nurture others in the Christian faith for the transformation of their communities.
- Church-Focused with a heart for leadership, evangelism, and discipleship in the local church, preparing God's people for works of service wherever they find themselves.

Therefore, we seek to be:

- Christ-Centered in our being and doing, honoring Christ through prayers, service, faithfulness, and gratitude.
- Cooperative in ministry, valuing partnerships that are diverse and creative in their approach to solving Africa's complex social and spiritual problems. Cooperation reflects the Body of Christ and maximizes both human and financial resources.
- Faithful in our stewardship of the people, talents, gifts, and resources that God has entrusted to us.
- Trustworthy as servants of the Lord in word, deed, and conduct.
- Respectful, valuing one another as individuals, team members, and colleagues who minister together in this ministry of reconciliation, respecting individual cultural differences while promoting open communication, innovation, personal growth, and organizational excellence.