



## Statement of Faith

The Statement of Faith of Greater Atlanta Christian School, signed annually by each member of the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, and staff, provides affirmation of biblical doctrine that is in concert with the message of God as reflected in the Bible and historic Christianity. The statement also defines the perspective that shapes a Greater Atlanta Christian education. Originally written in 2005, the Statement of Faith was updated in 2013 for clarity and to insure ongoing faithfulness of the entire school community to God's purpose and will.

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WE BELIEVE in one sovereign God, eternally existing in three persons: the Everlasting Father, His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life.

WE BELIEVE that God by His spoken word created the Heavens and the earth for His own glory.

WE BELIEVE that God has revealed Himself and His truth in the created order, in the Scriptures as reflected in the Bible, and supremely in Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE the Old and New Testaments of the Bible are the sole inspired and authoritative word of God, accurate in all their principles, provide for all humankind absolute moral truths, and are "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" so we may be complete, equipped for every good work (*2 Tim 3:15-17*).

WE BELIEVE that God created man and woman in His own image, as free moral agents, distinct from all other living creatures. We believe they sinned by rebelling against God's revealed will and thereby incurred both physical and spiritual death; and that all humankind as well carries its own guilt of sin, in thought, word, and deed.

WE BELIEVE in the existence of Satan, sin, and evil powers, and that all these have been defeated by God in the person of Christ on the cross.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, was true God and true man, existing in one person and without sin. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven, and in His presence there for us as Lord of all, High Priest, and Advocate.

WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as a sacrifice, triumphing over all evil; and that those who believe and follow Him are justified by His shed blood and forgiven of all their sins.

WE BELIEVE that salvation is a free gift from God, undeserved and unearned through our good works; that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ; that faith shows itself in obedience to Christ through repentance, confession of faith in Him, baptism, and a life led by the Holy Spirit, manifesting the Spirit's fruit.

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit dwells within believers, convicts them of sin, guides them in understanding scripture, empowers them for godly living, and equips them for service and witness.

WE BELIEVE that the one, holy, universal Church is the body of Christ and is composed of the communities of Christ's people. The task of Christ's people in this world is to be God's redeemed community, embodying His love by worshipping God with confession, prayer, and praise in spirit and in truth; by proclaiming the gospel of God's redemptive love through our Lord Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth by word and deed; by submitting to the authority of the Bible, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, rather than the dictates of man or ecclesiastical order; and by caring for all of God's creation and actively seeking the good of everyone, especially the poor and needy.

WE BELIEVE in the hope that Jesus Christ will return, personally, visibly, and unexpectedly, in power and great glory, to gather His people, to raise the dead, to judge the nations, and to bring His Kingdom to fulfillment.

WE BELIEVE in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, to face a just and merciful God in final judgment.

WE BELIEVE in the universal worth of all humankind as God's beloved creation, and equality in honor, equity, justice, and mercy for every person.

WE BELIEVE that beliefs are far more than intellectual affirmations: Our faith impacts our actions. Therefore these faith statements will be guiding principles for decision making for both institutional direction and for each individual entrusted with responsibility within Greater Atlanta Christian School (*James 2:19-20*).

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