

CHRISTIAN AFFILIATION

We are a multi-denominational ministry. We welcome Christians from all across the theological spectrum to come together to love God and love people in the city. We emphasize what we can agree on rather than dividing over what we don't agree on.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe the Bible to be the inspired and authoritative Word of God.

We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the deity and humanity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His present rule as Head of the Church and in His personal return in power and glory.

We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful men regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, with equality across racial, gender, and class differences

BELIEFS

We hope to define ourselves by what we are for rather than by what we are against, so we at Mission Year have looked to early church history for common creeds that have been used for thousands of years by many different denominations. By defining our center, we hope to reflect the oft repeated phrase, "In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, liberty. In all things, charity."

The first creed we subscribe to at Mission Year is the Nicene Creed, which was the first official doctrinal statement of the whole Church. Developed in the 4th century and adopted by the Council of Chalcedon in 451, it is the only creed accepted and used by all three of the major branches of Christendom: Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Protestant. As the most ecumenical of creeds, it is a good place for a non-denominational organization like Mission Year to start.

The second creed that we use to define ourselves at Mission Year is the Apostle's Creed, which was developed between the 2nd and 8th centuries but reflects the theological formations of the first century Church. It has been the most widely used confessional statement in the Western Church for the past 1200 years.

PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

We are Jesus-centered in our theology and practice (John 12:32).

We believe in an incarnational and relational approach to ministry (John 1; Phil. 2:5-7).

We value the ethnic and cultural differences of the body of Christ (Col. 3-11; Rev. 7:9).

We believe that the neighborhood comes first. Therefore, we will seek the interests of our neighbors before our own (Matt. 6:33; Phil. 2:3-4).

We respect and partner with indigenous people, churches, organizations, and neighborhoods (Gen. 1:26-27).

We seek to do justice and love mercy because of Jesus' special concern for the poor and oppressed (Micah 6:8; Deut. 10:17-19; Deut. 16; Isaiah 58; Luke 4:14-21; James 1:27).