

The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

### The Open Bible

God's Word is the foundation of faith and life.

### **The Ascending Dove**

The Holy Spirit ascending, symbolic of the freedom of the congregation and the power and guidance of the Spirit.

## The Vine

Emblem of the living congregation bearing fruit for the Lord.

# WELCOME TO BIBLICAL LUTHERANISM

A Scriptural Guide for the Local Congregations



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### Jesus Christ is the only way to Salvation.

"For God so loved the world ..." (John 3:16). "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

"... while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away ..." (Acts 3:19).

"... the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out" (John 6:37).

#### Free congregations are called to work in love and unity to accomplish what they cannot do alone.

World Missions • Home Missions • Association
Free Lutheran Bible School • Association
Free Lutheran Seminary • Parish
Education • Evangelism • Women's
Missionary Federation • Association Retreat
Center • Ambassador Institute • Youth
Ministry • The Lutheran
Ambassador • Ministry
Training Institute • Bible
camps • FLAPS

## WE STILL BELIEVE

#### The Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God.

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteouness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work" (II Timothy 3:16-17).

> "... the Scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35).

### The Bible speaks to all of the social issues of our day.

"... it is the only inerrant and completely adequate source and norm of Christian doctrine and life" (1962 Declaration of Faith).

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### Simple and orderly worship is joyfully centered on God's Word.

"But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner" (I Corinthians 14:40).

"Let my tongue sing of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteous" (Psalm 119:172).

#### True Christian unity is based on faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to His Word.

"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. " (John 17:17-21). Each local congregation should be free and living, subject only to the Word and Spirit of God.

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (II Corinthians 3:17).

### Christians are called to be salt and light in the world.

"You are the salt of the earth. ... You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Intead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:13-16).

> "A pietism which is needed and right for our day" (1962 AFLC Historical Statement).