

# **Christian Life Church**

## **New Members Book**



**This book belongs to:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **What We Believe At Christian Life Church**

**We Believe** – The Bible is the Word of God, supernaturally inspired. It is inerrant in the original manuscripts and preserved by God in its verbal, plenary inspiration; and it is a divinely authoritative standard for every age and every life.

**We Believe** – The Godhead exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that these three are God.

**We Believe** – God is the absolute and sole creator of the universe and that creation was a divine command.

**We Believe** – God, by His Sovereign choice and out of love for men, sent for men, sent Christ into the world of sinners.

**We Believe** – That Jesus Christ in the flesh was both God and man. He was born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. He was crucified, died as a penalty for our sins, and was raised from the dead bodily on the third day. Later, He ascended to the Father's right hand where He is the head of the church and intercedes for believers.

**We Believe** – Jesus Christ is coming again personally, bodily, and visibly to this earth to set His millennial kingdom.

**We Believe** – The Lord Jesus Christ made a perfect atonement for sin, through His sacrificial death and shed blood, and has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. Men are saved and justified on the simple and single ground of His shed blood.

**We Believe** – That salvation through Jesus Christ, with its forgiveness of sins, its impartation of a new nature, and its hope of eternal life – entirely apart from good works, baptism, church membership or man’s effort and is of pure grace.

**We Believe** – That a true believer is eternally secure, that he cannot lose his salvation, but that sin may interrupt the joy of his fellowship with God and bring the loving discipline of his heavenly Father.

**We Believe** – That all who receive Christ become joint heirs with Him, and at death, their spirits and souls depart to be with Christ in conscious blessedness.

**We Believe** – That at the rapture, their bodies will be raised to the likeness of the body of His glory and dwell forever in His divine presence.

**We Believe** – That it is the goal of every Christian to become a disciple of Christ by growing toward spiritual maturity through the knowledge of and obedience to the Word of God and submission to the Holy Spirit, who undwells, baptizes and seals all believers at the moment of salvation.

**We Believe** – That every true Christian is to be a dynamic part of local church since this is God’s primary context for spiritual development and community impact.

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## I. God

### Introduction:

When the Bible declares that God is the Creator of the universe it indicates that God Himself is not created.

There is a crucial distinction between the Creator and the creation. Every effect must have a cause, but God is not an effect. He has no beginning and no end. He has, within Himself, the power of being. He requires no assistance from outside sources to continue to exist. He is self-existent.

1. Where did God come from? (Psa.90:2)

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2. How did God reveal Himself?

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Ex. 3:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Ex. 13:21 \_\_\_\_\_

John 1:1, 14 \_\_\_\_\_

Rom. 1:19 \_\_\_\_\_

3. The Attributes of God:

A) God is Omnipotent: \_\_\_\_\_

(Rev. 19:6, Mat. 19:26)

B) God is Omniscient: \_\_\_\_\_

(Job 37:16, Psa. 147:4-5)

**C. God is Omnipresent:** \_\_\_\_\_

**D. God is Holy:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Lev. 11:45, Pet. 1:16)**

**E. God is Immutable:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Mal. 3:6, James 1:17)**

### **Trinity:**

**The word Trinity is not found in the Bible yet the truth of the Trinity is found from Genesis through Revelation. The word comes from the Latin, “Trinitas” which means, “threefold” – the threefold manifestation of God.**

### **The Godhead**

**God the Father:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(John 5:37)**

**God the Son:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(John 1:1-5, 14 and John 10:30)**

**God the Holy Spirit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Genesis 1:1-2)**

### **The Nature of God –**

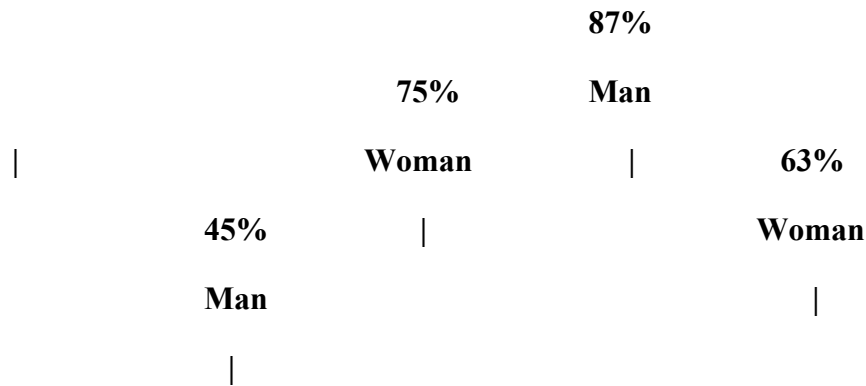
**1. John 4:24:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. 1 John 1:15:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. 1 John 4:8:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Divine Measure: Jesus Christ is the Standard**

**100% The Lord Jesus Christ    “Be ye Therefore perfect”**



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**All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. (Rom. 3:23)**

**God -----|-----Men**

**He hath has something to boast about; but not before God. (Rom. 4:2)**





## **II. Salvation**

### **Introduction -**

**Salvation is the work of God by which He saves man from the eternal doom of sin.**

**If it is “the new birth,” Jesus said to Nicodemus, “Ye must be born again” (John 3:3-7). The new birth is a spiritual birth and is as much birth as the natural birth. The only way to become a Christian is to be “born again.”**

**The meaning of salvation in the Hebrew and Greek implies the ideas of deliverance, safety, and preservation. Until a person receives Christ as their Savior, that person is lost. Good works will never bring salvation to a soul. (Eph. 2:10)**

### **1. Salvation is a Free Gift from God:**

**A) What did God have to do in order that we might obtain salvation?**

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**(John 3:16, Isaiah 53:10)**

**B) Since salvation is a gift of God and His grace is provided, what must a person do?**

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**(Rom. 3:23, Rom. 10:9-10)**

**C) What does it mean to repent? According to Eph. 2:8-9, what cannot bring salvation?**

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**(Eph. 2:10)**

## **II. Salvation includes:**

**A. Forgiveness:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:13-14)**

**B. Regeneration:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(John 3:3-7, II Cor. 5:17)**

**C. Justification:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Rom. 8:29-30, Rom. 5:9)**

**D. Sanctification:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(John 17:18-19, Gal. 2:20)**

**E. Righteousness:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Phil. 3:7-9, II Cor. 5:21)**

**F. Security:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(John 10:29, Rom. 3:38-39, Eph. 4:30, Eph. 1:13-14, John 6:37-40)**

**G. Redemption:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Gal. 3:13, Gal. 4:5)**

**Glorification:** \_\_\_\_\_

(I Cor. 15:50-54, Rev. 21:1-7)



**Satan Old Nature**  
**Temptations, Desires,**  
**Lust**



**Through the power**  
**of the Cross. Jesus**  
**Broke the Chains!**



**DELIVERANCE**

**From the Power of Sin**



### **III. Sin**

**Man has a natural tendency to go astray, to think and act in a debasing way. There is an endless struggle to do good but evil is always present to distort, to lead astray. Something happened to the nature of man. It happened in the “fall of man” in Genesis 3. Since then, sin has been inherited. We are born with a sinful nature. If you doubt this, then answer the question: Do you have to teach a child to do wrong? Quite the opposite...you have to teach the child right!**

**This is not a lesson about “goodness” of “good people,” but rather the “sin of all humanity.”**

**1. What is a good definition of sin? \_\_\_\_\_**

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\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Where did sin originate: (Isa. 14:12-14) \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. How did man become a sinner? (Rom. 5:12) \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. How did sin affect mankind’s total being? (Rom. 3:11-12, Rom. 6:23) \_\_\_\_\_**

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\_\_\_\_\_

**5. What did sin affect, other than Adam and Eve: (Rom. 8:22, Gen. 3:14-24) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**6. Who committed the first sin?** \_\_\_\_\_

**7. What is the consequence for sin? (Isa. 59:1-2, Gen. 3: 17-19, Rom. 6:23)**

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**8. What is the cure for sin? (John 1:29, John 3:16, Gen. 3:21, Tit. 3:5)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **IV. Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

### **Introduction -**

**We are to go into the world, preach the Gospel to every person, win others to Christ, baptize our converts, and then observe whatever our Lord has taught us.**

**The Lord's Supper is more than just an ordinance of the church, more than a Christian duty, more than a religious ceremony, - It's Holy Time. Jesus instituted and instructed the church to continue until He returns to receive us unto Himself.**

### **1. Baptism**

**A. What is the purpose of baptism? (Rom. 6:3-4) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**B. Why is baptism important? (Gal. 3:27) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**C. What can baptism not do? Why? \_\_\_\_\_**

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**D. Why did Jesus get baptized? \_\_\_\_\_**

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**E. What method of baptism does the Bible teach? (Mat. 28:19) \_\_\_\_\_**

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## **II. The Lord's Supper**

**A. When was it that Jesus began the ordinance of the Lord's Supper? \_\_\_\_\_**

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**B. What is the purpose of taking Communion? (Luke 22:19) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**C. What does Christ want us to remember anew each time we sit together at the Lord's Supper?**

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**D. What very important principal do we learn from I Cor. 11:28? \_\_\_\_\_**

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**E. What do we show forth by fellowshiping together around the Lord's Table at our church? (I Cor. 10:16-17) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**Notes: \_\_\_\_\_**

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## **V. Satan**

### **Goal -**

**\*To lead a proper and scriptural understanding of our enemy, the devil, and to understand His power and unholy desires.**

### **Introduction:**

**The scriptures reveal that Satan and his angels (demons) are personal, corruptive and evil beings or forces in the affairs of man. He is the enemy of all Christians and is the opposite of all works of God...whatever it may be!**

**1. What kind of being is Satan? How was he created? (Ez. 28:13, Isa. 14:12) \_\_\_\_\_**

**2. List at least three different names the Bible gives Satan. (Eph. 2:2, Rev. 12:10, John 8:44) \_\_\_\_\_**

**3. What are Satan's three basic battlegrounds? \_\_\_\_\_**

**4. List three ways that Satan attacks the child of God. \_\_\_\_\_**

**5. How can we defeat the devil in his attack upon us? (Psa. 119:11, 1 John 1:6-7) \_\_\_\_\_**

**6. How did Satan fall from Heaven (Isa. 14:13-14) \_\_\_\_\_**

**7. Where did sin originate? \_\_\_\_\_**

**8. Where is Satan's kingdom: (Mat. 13:38, John 8:44) \_\_\_\_\_**

**9. How was Satan defeated? \_\_\_\_\_**



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## **VI. The Second Coming of Christ**

### **Introduction –**

**The Lord's return to the earth is divided into two parts. The first is called the rapture of the Saints. He is coming back to take His church into Himself which is sometimes called the secret rapture. Then, the second part is found in the book of Revelation. John, seeing in a vision on the Isle of Palmos, the second coming of Christ, when Jesus will actually return to the earth according to the promise of John 14 and Acts 1.**

**1. The return of Christ is divided into two parts. Explain the difference. (1 Thess. 4:13-18, Rev.19:11-21)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. What separates these two parts of the Lord's return? How long of a period of time expires?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**3. What will be some of the immediate effects of the rapture if that event takes place today? (1 Cor. 15:50-53)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**4. The Bible says there will be an apostasy before Jesus comes. What does that mean? (2 Thess. 2:3)**

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**5. At what time will Jesus physically set foot on the earth again? (Rev. 19:11-16)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**6. What is the judgment seat of Christ? (2 Cor. 5:10)** \_\_\_\_\_

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7. What is the Great White Throne of God? (Rev. 20:11-15) \_\_\_\_\_

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## **VII. Witnessing**

The most important day in your life was the day you trusted Christ as your own personal Savior. That day forever changed your life both here and in eternity. The most important work in the world is bringing others to Christ! This is the work that Jesus Himself came to do, for He said He came to “seek and save those who are lost.” It is the business He has given those who are saved. This is a work that every saved person can do whether man, woman, teenager, boy or girl. In this lesson you will learn how to use the Bible and tell others to know Christ.

1. Who is responsible to win the lost? (Mat. 28:16-20) \_\_\_\_\_

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2. The Bible tells us to “go out quickly into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in.” Why is it urgent to go out quickly? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What is promised to those who will go out with compassion and engage in “bearing the precious seed?” (Psa. 126:6) \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Who is the man in the Bible who won his brother to Christ? What can we learn from him? (John 1:35-42) \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Why is it important to memorize the plan of salvation from the scripture? \_\_\_\_\_**

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**6. What must the unbelievers see in order that what we say hold to be true? (John 13:34-35, 1 Peter 1:14-16) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**7. What is the Gospel? (1 Cor. 15:1-4) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Notes –**

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**Christian Life Church**

**Reference Guide**

**Church History**

**Getting to Know Your Pastor**

**Mission Statement**

**Doctrinal Statement**

**Organizational and Functional Statement**

**Membership Statement**

**CLC Goals (Short and Long Term)**

**Mission at CLC**

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## ***Christian Life Church History***

**Christian Life Church started with a vision that God gave Pastor Lucas some ten years ago to start a church that would cater to families, realizing that families are the glue that grows a church. He realized that many families are hurting and are in need of spiritual guidance and he feels that God has equipped him to build into families for the kingdom so after being the Assistant Pastor at Rooted Bible Fellowship for 5 years he started pastoring CLC under the deck of his home.**

## **Getting to Know Your Pastor**

**Joseph Lucas Jr. is the senior pastor of Christian Life Church. He has 6 wonderful children and 8 beautiful grandchildren. Pastor Lucas also owns New Covenant Heating and Air Conditioning, located in Bel Air Maryland. He attended Baltimore School of Bible, and later attended Arlington Bible College. Pastor Lucas was a member of Shining Star Baptize Church under the charge of Pastor Johnson, where he then became a deacon and had his first initial sermon, later becoming the youth pastor. Branching off from Shining Star Pastor Lucas joined Rooted Bible Fellowship where he became the Assistant Pastor under the charge of Pastor Webster. He became the Pastor over Sunday school, a pure and proud ministry, the young adult ministry, the singles ministry, evangelism and also the prison ministry. Leaving Rooted Bible Fellowship Church, Joseph Lucas is the founder and Senior Pastor of Christian Life Church. The bible says in Psalm 127:1 ‘Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.’**

## **CLC Mission Statement**

**Christian Life Church mission is to establish a community of diverse spiritual believers whose lives are defined by the will of God. We seek to emulate our services to God through evangelism, fellowship, sound biblical teaching, and accountability to the Word of God. We aspire to live in the light of the kingdom agenda.**

## **Biblical Doctrinal Beliefs of the Church**

### **Doctrinal Belief Affirmation (17 Articles of Faith)**

**1. We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as plenary, verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, embracing all matters which biblical authors address and believe that they are supreme and final authority in faith and life (2 Tim. 3:15, 17; John 10:35; 2 Pet. 1:19-21; Psa. 89:34).**

**2. We believe God the Father is eternally existent, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, Ruler of the universe, omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent as three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit; One in nature, attributes, power and glory. God the Father is perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. God saves from sin and death all who come to Him through faith in Jesus Christ (Gen. 1:26; Prov. 30:4; Mark 12:29; Mat. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 1:1-4, 18; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Tim. 3:16; John 5:7).**

**3. We believe that the Lord Jesus is the eternal Son of God, and has precisely the same nature, attributes and perfection as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin and He was both true God and true man. We also believe in His sinless life, His voluntary and substitutionary death on the cross of our sins, past, present, and future. We also believe in His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, His high priestly intercession on behalf of His people and His personal, visible and premillennial return (Mat. 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-35; Phil. 2:6-11; Isa. 7:14; Heb. 10:10-14, 2:9; 2 Cor. 5:21; Tit. 2:14; Acts 13:38; 1 Pet. 2:24; John 3:5).**

**4. We believe in the literal six-day account of creation and that the creation of man lies in the special, immediate and formative acts of God and not from previously existing forms of life (Gen. 1:26-27, 2:7-9, 16-17).**

**5. We believe that man was created perfect in the image of God, that he sinned, and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual and eternal death which is separation from God. All human beings are born with a sinful nature and we are sinners through word and deed (Gen. 3:1-6; Rom. 1:18, 32, 3:10-19, 5:12, 19).**

**6. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice and rose again for our justification on the**

grounds of His blood and are saved by grace, through faith, wholly apart from human merit and work (Acts 10:39, 16:31; Rom. 3:21-28; Eph. 2:8-10; Tit. 3:3-8; 1 Cor. 15:1-4).

7. We believe, that, all who believe the Lord Jesus Christ are born again by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and thereby become the children of God forever and are eternally secure. The moment a person receives Christ as his Savior, immediately the Holy Spirit indwells him and he is sealed until the day of redemption (John 1:12-13; John 3:3-16, 5:25, 10:28-29; 1 Pet. 1:23; 2 Pet.1:4-11; Gal. 2:16; Tit. 3:5; Rom. 3:22; Col. 2:13).

8. We believe God, the Holy Spirit was active in creation; He convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment; that He is the Agent in the new birth; that He baptizes all believers into the body of Christ at conversion; that He indwells, seals, endures, guilds and teaches. We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine believer (Psa. 139:7-12; John 14:16-17, 16:13-14; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 1:13, 4:30).

9. We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit are still active today but is not as prevalent as it was a manifestation of the Holy Spirit's power for the establishment of the early churches (1 Cor. 12:28-30, 14:1-40).

10. We believe in the "Blessed Hope" and the Rapture of the Church before tribulation when the "Lord shall descend from heaven" to catch up His bride to meet Him in the air and "so shall we ever be with the Lord" (John 14:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:15-58).

11. We believe in the literal, body resurrection of the crucified Lord, His ascension into heaven, His present life there as our High Priest and Advocate, and His personal, bodily return to earth and to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords (Luke 23:36-43; John 29:24-29; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; Rev. 1:5-7, 19:11-16, 20:6).

12. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all the dead – the saved of eternal glory and complete happiness in heaven with God and the unsaved to eternal judgment of conscious suffering and woe in the lake of fire (John 5:28-29; Rev. 29:6, 11-15, 21:1-8; Matt. 10:28, 18:8, 9:25, 42 46; Mark 9:43-49; 2 The. 1:6-9).

13. We believe in personal separation from all practices and influences of the world which hinder a spirit-filled life. We believe in biblical separation from all forms of ecclesiastical apostasy (Rom. 6:1-14; Gal. 5:16-25; Rom. 12:1; Jam. 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17).

14. We believe that it is the privilege and responsibility of every believer to be a personal soul winner and to his utmost to give the Gospel of Christ to the whole world (Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; John 17:18, 20-21; 2 Cor. 5:20).

**15. We believe that the local church is an organized congregation of immersed believers associated by covenant, observing the ordinances of Christ, having offices of Elders, and Deacons, exercising the gifts, rights, privileges and responsibilities given them by the Word, and the Church, which is His body, includes, includes all New Testament believers (Matt. 8:15-17; 1 Cor. 12:28, 1:2, 7:17; 1 Tim. 3:1-5; Eph. 1:22-23, 2:14-15, 5:23-32).**

**16. We believe that the scriptural ordinances of the local church are baptism and the Lord's Supper; that baptism, by immersion, should be administered to believers only, as a identifying symbol of their beliefs in the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and our death to sin and resurrection to a new walk in life (Mat. 28:19-20; Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12; 1 Cor. 11:23-32).**

**17. We believe the church as described in the scriptures. Consist of a body of believers who have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation. The church (ekkleesia) which is the body of Christ are special people, called out, separate, sanctified, set apart for the use of the Lord Jesus Christ. We further believe the Holy Spirit is sufficient to lead and guide the believer.**



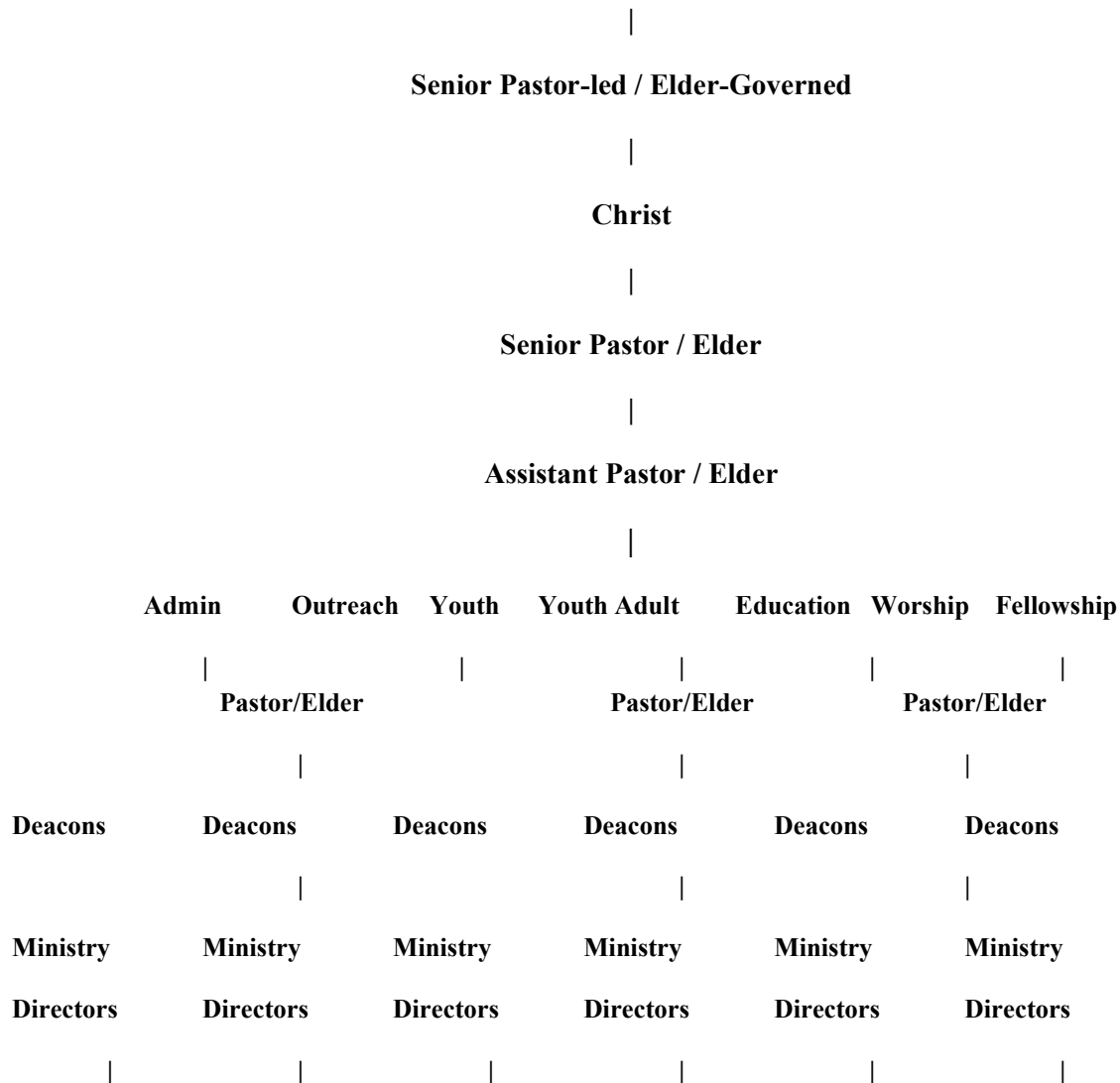
## Organizational and Functional Statement

### How We Function

#### Leadership Philosophy

**Christian Life Church is Christ-centered, Senior Pastor-led, Elder-governed and executed by Deacons and Ministry Director providing services.**

#### Organizational Chart



## **Ministry Personnel**

### **Congregation**

**\*Each ministry will have Pastoral oversight, Deacon directed over that ministry area and other persons with related expertise who are approved by the Elders from the General Membership.**

## **Membership Statement**

### **Joining Christian Life Church**

#### **Membership Philosophy**

We believe that every believer becomes a part of the universal body of Christ upon the moment of belief and trust in the finished work of Christ on the Cross (1 Cor. 12:13). We will encourage and teach believers to follow the New Testament example of baptism by immersion. Baptism is essential. It is an outward act of an inward act that has already taken place at conversion.

#### **Qualification**

We believe that the only requirement for joining Christian Life Center assembly of believers should be a verbal testimony of one's salvation in Jesus Christ and agreement with the purpose and direction of this assembly.

#### **Process**

Any person who desires to be a member shall request an interview with the Senior Pastor and Elders. Upon acceptable testimony of the above requirement and completion of Pre-Membership class, that person will be presented to the congregation for affirmation into the assembly on the next available Sunday.

#### **Service at Christian Life Church**

##### Teaching and Leadership Capacity

All those of the Christian Life Center body who desire to teach or fulfill a leadership role (Elder, Deacon, Ministry Director, etc.) must be in agreement with the doctrine, teaching vision and leadership philosophy of the church and must first be approved by the Senior Pastor and Elders.

#### **General Help**

General help in the assembly is open to all who desire to do so.

#### **Church Leadership Government and Organization**

It is our desire at Christian Life Center to bring all believers to a significant, intimate walk with their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, thus fostering a great desire to reproduce themselves in others

as they follow his leading in their lives and by affecting their surrounding communities for His glory. This shall be accomplished through several means.

### **Evangelism**

To spread the gospel propagation by means of door to door evangelism, community revivals and community outreach programs.

### **Discipleship**

Biblical expositional preaching and teaching; training, men and women fellowship, youth ministry, young adults ministry, mentoring programs, Wednesday night Bible prayer meeting, and Sunday School.

### **Community Outreach**

Single parent ministry, drug and alcohol ministry, food and clothing program, mentoring program, day care, tutorial/marriage counseling, family counseling, entrepreneurial programs, recreational problems, group homes, transitional housing, and various community activities and workshops.

## **Leadership Structure and how it Functions at Christian Life Church**

### **Church Leadership Philosophy**

Christian Life Church is Christ-centered, Senior Pastor Teacher-led, Elders-governed and Deacon-implemented.

**Christ-centered:** We believe that Christ is the “Chief Shepherd” of the church, that Christ is the “Head,” Pastor/Elders are under-shepherds guided by His hand and word (Jer. 23:4; Eph. 1:22, 5:23; Col. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:4).

**Senior Pastor Teacher-led:** We do believe that there is significant authority given to the Senior Pastor Teacher of the New Testament Church. We believe that he fulfills all three given in Scripture – Bishop, Elder, Pastor – and that these are not separate offices. We believe that He is the “overseer” of the assembly of believers; his primary functions are to provide vision for the church and facilitate the teaching, training, and discipleship of the assembly. The congregation of believers is to follow his leadership and that he is to win this following by being “an example” to the flock, not as “Lords over God’s heritage” as Hebrews 13:17 and 1 Peter 5:3 exhort.

**Elder-governed:** Christian Life Church shall be governed by a plurality of Elders. We believe that the New Testament church places the burden on a plurality of Elders in which the Elders

shall oversee the congregation and make policy decision with regard of the affairs, functions, directions and business of the church.

**Deacon-implemented:** We believe that Deacons are prescribed in the New Testament as men set aside to assist the Senior Pastor and Elders in the day to day ministering duties of the local body of believers as set forth in Acts 6.

### **Definition of Terms**

**Christ-centered:** We believe that Christ is the “Chief Shepherd” of the church, that Christ is the “Head,” Pastor/Elders are under-shepherds guided by His hand and word (Jer. 23:4; Eph. 1:22, 5:23; Col. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:4).

**Senior Pastor-led and Pastors/Elders-governed:** We do believe that there is significant authority given to the Pastor/Teacher of the New Testament Church. We believe that he fulfills all three names given in Scripture-Bishop, Elder and Pastor-and that these are not separate offices.

**His Authority:** We believe that the congregation of believers is to follow his leadership and that he is to win this following by being “an example” to the flock, not as “Lords of God’s heritage” as Heb. 13:17 and 1 Pet. 5:3 exhort.

**His Function:** Though we believe that he is the “overseer” of the assembly of believers, his primary functions are to provide for the vision and proper leadership of the church and facilitate the teaching, training and discipleship of the assembly.

**Qualifications:** The Senior Pastor and Pastors/Elders if Christian Life Center shall meet the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

**Deacons:** Fulfillment of New Testament church requirements

**Authority:** We believe that Deacons are prescribed in the New Testament as men set aside to assist the Pastor (s) in the day to day ministering duties of the body of believers set forth in Acts 6.

**Function:** Administration and general needs of the assembly.

**Qualifications:** Their qualifications shall be taken from 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Their term of office shall be three years. A deacon may succeed himself in office and his term of office may be successive after a 3-year evaluation unless they cease to meet the biblical qualifications or personally remove themselves because of other circumstances.

**Selection:** According to Acts 6:2-6, they are to be recommended by the congregation, examined by the Elder board and complete Deacon training and ordained to the office.

**Church Councils:** At Christian Life Church, Councils are appointed by the Senior Pastor. The council is the leadership team which consists of Pastor, a Deacon, Ministry Director and other Pastor appointed members. The councils fulfill the vision by providing direction of appointed areas within the church.

**Ministry Directors:** Has the responsibility of seeing the mechanics of that vision and direction carried out. Hence, each director is responsible for his/her area of ministry, such as planning, budgeting and execution in accordance with that vision and approval of Senior Pastor/Elders.

**Member Commitment:** To embrace the philosophy and vision of Christian Life Church, to help the Senior Pastor/Elders and Deacons fulfill their ministry with joy, to support the Senior Pastor/Elder and Deacons with prayer, to have a desire to grow spiritually, to support ministry in giving and to pursue peace, unity, love, and oneness of mind with all of the saints.

**Marriage:** We believe that marriage is an honorable and holy union ordained by God. We believe that it is a union to be entered into only by one man and one woman (heterosexual). Any other union than this is outside of the biblical boundaries that God has ordained.

**Divorce:** We believe that divorce is a tragic and devastating part of our society. We believe that God meant what He said in Malachi 2:16, “For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that He hateth putting away [divorce].” Therefore, we believe and do support forgiveness and reconciliation as God’s resolution to conflict within a marriage. But the chose is yours under infidelity.

**Sexuality:** We believe that sex between two human beings should be confined to a male and female relationship within the biblical boundaries of marriage. All sexual activity outside of these boundaries is defined by God and His word as “fornication.”

**Abortion:** We do believe in the sanctity and God-ordained privilege of life for the unborn. We believe that every human being has been created unique and special by God, thus He alone holds the authority over life and death.

**Physically Challenged:** We believe that God does not make mistakes, whether it be through creation or circumstance. Therefore, we believe in seeking to welcome, encourage and help all those who are of this context both within and without this assembly.

**Discrimination:** We believe that all races of this world have been created uniquely and divinely by God. We believe therefore that all races are equal in His sight and should be equal in the sight of believers as well.

- Note: We at Christian Life Church do recognize that divorce, sex outside of the Biblical boundaries, abortion, discrimination, etc. are consequences of our godless society, and we recognize that no one is immune to, nor above the ability to become involved in these themselves. Therefore, we believe that those who have experienced such involvements in their lives are no less forgivable or useable within the context of the assembly of believers as set forth in Galatians 6:1 and 2 Corinthians 2:5-8. We believe the message of the Gospel of Grace provides this.

### **Christian Life Church Goals**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Year to 10<sup>th</sup> Year**

To see Christian Life Church as a collective and individual body start to work towards fleshing out these Kingdom objectives.

“Now to Him who is to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever! Amen.” Eph. 3:20

- To build meaningful relationships
- To create spiritually fit believers
- To strengthen families
- To strengthen existing ministries
- To model out Kingdom principles
- To develop a commitment level
- To begin integrating and impacting our surrounding community
- To start (4) four community groups
- To start developing the vision

## **Missions at Christian Life Church**

**We are a mission minded body of believers at Christian Life Church. One of our top priorities is to support mission work being conducted worldwide. Because we believe in the Great Commission Christ left the church with Matthew 28:18-20. It is our heartfelt desire to reach souls with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.**

### **Missions we currently Support**

**Wycliffe Bible Translators**

**Mark & Estela Trostle**

**P. O. Box 2727**

**Huntington Beach, Ca. 92647**

**Friends of Africa**

**Ciara Oti**

## **Christian Life Church Ministries**

**All ministry leaders must attend bible class. Remember we are setting the example.**

**We are to be Disciples.**

**II Timothy 2:15 – Work hard so God can approve you be a good worker one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.**

### **Adult Dance**

**Ministry Leader: Sis. Patricia (Pat) Diggs**

**General Responsibilities:** The CLC Adult Dance ministry provides a Christ centered environment where adults can learn to use the fine arts as a form of worship and a tool for ministry to our church and our community. Not only do we focus on dance technique, but we provide an outlet for individuals to glorify God through the creative arts.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to use dancing to glory God and for God and for God to use us for the breaking down of strongholds, uplifting, encouraging, and opening of hearts receive Christ as Savior and to testify of God's goodness, mercy, and grace, inspiring the congregation to true praise (Ps. 30:110).

### **Drama**

**Ministry Leader:**

**General Responsibilities:** The Drama ministry of CLC attempts to enhance worship and to illustrate spiritual truths.

**Mission Statement:** We believe that the Drama ministry at CLC is a way to bring glory to God through plays and skits that are influenced by the Word of God. Our desire is to minister to others through the acting gifts and talents that God has bestowed upon us (I Cor. 10:31).



## **Finance**

### **Ministry Leader: Deacon Obie Green**

**General Responsibilities:** The Finance ministry is responsible over all CLC finance systems. Duties include recording and managing all income and expenditures, church budget, disbursement of checks, paying monthly bills, recording member's tithing and general offering, preparing member's yearly statements, supplying accountant with quarterly and accurate financial reports, tax preparations and compensation packages and issuing employee payroll checks. The Finance committee must be spirit-led, a good steward and must be conscience over CLC's finances. The leader is responsible to the Senior Pastor for spiritual oversight, direction, and approval.

**Mission Statements:** We will keep accurate records of all coming in and going out. We will do this by accounting for funds as to what and how they are being used. As we do this, we will be able to provide quarterly and yearly reports as needed for meeting and tax purpose. By doing this we will be able to build God's kingdoms through the proper managements of his funds.

## **Foreign Mission**

**Minister LeaderGeneral Responsibilities:** The leader is responsible to establish an open line of communication with all of the missionaries-foreign or domestic-that CLC supports, to identify and emergency needs of our missionary friends, to share with the congregation any correspondence and reports and to coordinate and annual mission month. The Foreign leader is responsible to the Pastoral oversight to receive direction, spiritual oversight, and approvals.

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Missions Ministry is to support and promote the spreading of the gospel at home and afar so that souls may be saved, and lives may be impacted through the spreading of God's word and then as new disciples this process will be replicated throughout the world.

## **Hospitality**

**Ministry Leader: Sis. Marla Cain**

**General Responsibilities:** The Hospitality team is designed to assist the Pastor in the care and well-being of the church body and the community assisting in areas that will honor the Lord by demonstrating the love of Christ by ministering in the following areas: visiting and assisting the sick and shut-in, hospital visitation, card and flower ministry, assisting to the needs of visiting pastors and churches, communion set up, home going services, weddings, church dinners, preparation of food baskets, distributing clothes, food pantry and having access to referrals of other churches and agencies to help someone in need. The Hospitality leader must be able to provide leadership towards the team members, be spirit-led, be resourceful and be able to coordinate events and personnel. The leader must work closely with the Pastor but also with all the other ministry leaders to ensure a quality-of-life changing ministry. The leader will be responsible to the Senior Pastor for spiritual oversight, direction, and approval.

**Mission Statement:** I Peter 4:9-10, “Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

## **Impacting Youth Ministry**

**Ministry Leader: Darrell (Rico) Baker and Lakenya (Kenya) Diggs**

**Director: Minister Ronnie McKinney**

**General Responsibilities:** The Youth Director will minister to all of the young person’s ages to 18 of CLC by implementing biblical, comprehensive bible teachings and programs which are in accordance to church policies, procedures and statement of faith. The director must also provide clear, wise, biblical oversight and leadership to the youth and teachers alike. The director is responsible for all youth activities, scheduling, new ministries, and concepts. All activities/issues relating to the youth will be presented to the youth director. The director will keep open lines of communication with parents and is responsible to the Pastor for oversight, direction, and approvals.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to develop true followers of Jesus Christ, to dig into the hearts of the youth (Prov. 22:15; Gen. 8:21), and to reform heart attitudes instead of actions (Isa. 29:13).

## **Kingdom Kids**

### **Ministry Leader: Christy Grey**

**General Responsibilities:** The leader for the youth of our Wednesday night bible study will lead and organize curriculum and programs that will spiritually enhance at CLC. The leader will design activities, create an atmosphere of fun, establish a teaching rotation and the themes that will stimulate the spiritual development of our youth. The leader is responsible to the Senior Pastor for direction, oversight, and approvals.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to build into the youth of CLC by way of teaching, discipleship, and accountability that we might duplicate ourselves and that they too may be teachers of this same ministry.

## **Little Lights**

### **Ministry Leader:**

**General Responsibilities:** Toddler ministry leader will lead and organize curriculum, programs, and teaching rotation activities for the Little Light's. The leader must provide clear and proper leadership to the toddler workers under them. The leader is responsible to the Pastor for direction, oversight, and approval.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is leading children to Jesus Christ through the pure truth of the gospel and inviting parents into the classroom to take home these age-old truths to teach their children Christ-centered living (II Tim. 3:15).

## **Marriage**

**Ministry Leader: Deac. Shedrick Cain**

**Ministry Director: Pastor Joseph Lucas Jr**

**General Responsibilities:** We believe that marriage between a man and a woman is God's plan. We believe that God instituted the marriage with Adam and Eve. In the believing that God institutes and blesses marriages, we have witnessed the magnificent power which God brings to each of His believers. This ministry is based upon God's word and promises, the promise that if we follow Him, then our relationships will be blessed. The ministry is to help direct the path toward spiritual growth which will ultimately lead to transformation of relationships.

**Mission Statement:** The marriage ministry at CLC is based on a sacred covenant, vowing to love, honor, cherish and respect our spouses in good times and bad until death parts us. We will grow closer to God each day by placing Him in the center of our relationships. We will practice selfless, sacrificial love and unconditional respect with each other even when it is difficult. We will grant grace and forgiveness even when we don't feel like it. We will keep our hearts teachable and open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and we will produce healthy marriages rooted in Christ.

## **Men of Armor**

**Ministry Leader: Bro. Gene Miller**

**Ministry Director: Bro. Obie Green**

**General Responsibilities:** To provide proper leadership to the men of CLC by giving clear biblical teaching, direction, and counseling. The leader is responsible for establishing a learning curriculum, setting up workshops and seminars and coordinating events that relate to the men of CLC. The leader's overall mission is to be used by God to challenge, encourage, and stimulate the men towards holiness before God. The leader is responsible to the Pastoral oversight in communicating changes, ideas, policies and procedures, direction and plans and to receive spiritual oversight and approvals. He must also be spirit-led and must set an example of holiness and integrity.

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Men of Armor is to produce spiritually grounded men of God who will be leaders in their home as well as in the church by studying the Word of God and producing fruits that reflect this in their daily lives through evangelism, discipleship, and fellowship in the Word of God.

### **New Members Class**

**Ministry Leader: Bro. Gene Miller**

**Ministry Director: Pastor Joseph Lucas Jr**

**General Responsibilities:** At Christian Life Center Church, we welcome newcomers with open arms and invite each to find a place to call home within the warm embrace of our church family. New members are received upon completion of the New Members Course. This course is designed for those interested in exploring the nature of Christian faith and potential member of CLC. The class includes a review of core Christian doctrine, key tenets of our faith, an overview of worship and the sacraments, an examination of the meaning of faith and membership, and an in-depth look at the history, mission, and ministries of CLC.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission for the New Course is to begin to disciple new members by first instructing them of our core values and faith at CLC. Our mission is to grow a church full of members that have a desire to serve and support the mission of the church and we recognize the way to do this is by instructing potential new members at the beginning.

### **Outreach**

**Ministry Leader: Deac Reginald (Reggie) Gray**

**General Responsibilities:** To provide proper leadership and clear direction, spiritual oversight and biblical instruction to the members of the Outreach team. The Outreach leader is responsible for ordering witnessing learning materials and coordination Outreach event. The leader is responsible to Pastoral oversight in communicating changes, ideas, policies and procedures, direction and plans and should receive spiritual oversight. The leader also must be spirit-led, have a passion for evangelism, promote a spiritual atmosphere, must lead by example and must be living a holy life.

**Mission Statement:** We have been commissioned (acts 1:18). So with our love for Christ and a burning desire for lost souls, we will equip the saints for the work of the ministry so that we may go out, witness to the lost, and make disciples. God's agenda is our agenda.

## **Pastoral Care**

**Ministry Leader: Deac. Obie Green & Sis. Irene Green**

**General Responsibilities:** The Pastoral Care Ministry assists the Pastor within the ministry; serving as caretakers of the Pastor and Family. The purpose of the ministry is to provide service to the Pastor, ensuring that he is fully equipped, prepared, and able to fulfill his responsibilities in leading the church. Leaders must be prepared to assist by caring for the Pastor's belongings, anticipating his needs and demands to properly furnish and supply what is needed.

**Mission Statement:** We are commissioned to aid the Pastor while he prepares God's people for work of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up to fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow so that the whole body is healthy and growing in the full of love.

## **Prayer Chain**

**Ministry Leader: Bro Micheal & Sis Latonya Winston**

**General Responsibilities:** Prayer Chain leaders are responsible for implementing and putting into operation a dynamic prayer chain consisting of every CLC church member. The Prayer Chain leader is responsible for assigning prayer partners and bringing new members into the Prayer Chain. Other areas of responsibilities include assuring accountability, keeping the list of prayers updated and will also plan an annual prayer chain event or outing. The leader is responsible to the Senior Pastor for spiritual oversight, direction, and approval.

**Mission Statement:** 'My house is the house of prayer' Luke 19:46. We at CLC believe prayer to be both a commandment from God as well as a powerful weapon in spiritual warfare. Our mission in prayer is to speak in agreement with God and His Holy Name. To stand in the gap for those who are lost and to encourage, strengthen and edify those in the body of Christ. Making our requests known to God and hearing from Him. Through prayer we will battle spiritual wickedness in high places and pull-down strongholds. 'The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man availeth much. James 5:16

## **Radio / Audio**

**Ministry Leader: Michael (Mike) Moon**

**General Responsibilities:** The Radio/Audio ministry oversees the operation of all radio/audio needs including, but not limited to, microphones, lighting, sound systems, etc. Overall, the function of the ministry is to assure that all aspects regarding sound, and presentations linked to audio are executed in excellence.

**Mission Statement:** To provide excellent quality sound throughout all worship services, by ensuring that the Word of God can be heard clearly and concisely. Also, to provide excellent quality audio by way of CD and video DVD of the worship service and other special services of the church. This ministry is a service ministry to the Pastor, congregation, and sick and shut-ins, to aid in strengthening the family relationship and singles alike for the purpose of the kingdom agenda.

## **Singles Ministry**

**Ministry Leader**

**General Responsibilities:**

**Mission Statement:**

## **Sunday school**

**Ministry Leader:**

**General Responsibilities:** Sunday school at CLC is used to aid Christian's development of the church congregation through learning experiences introducing and explaining God's Word and the love of Jesus Christ.

**Mission Statement:** Having a great desire to grow together, we provide and attend Sunday school. Believing that iron sharpens iron, we encourage self-studies so that everyone may contribute to the corporate study. We further study to grow in the world, live wisely and impart wisdom to others, with our greatest purpose being to obey, and glorify God.

### **W.I.N.G.S – Women in Need Gaining Strength**

**Ministry Leader: Sis. Shon Miller**

**General Responsibilities:** To provide proper leadership to the women of CLC by giving clear biblical teaching, direction, and counseling. The leader is responsible for establishing a learning curriculum, set up workshops and seminars and coordinating events that relate to the women of CLC. The leaders over all mission, is to be used by God to challenge, encourage, and stimulate the women towards holiness before God. The leader is responsible to the Pastoral oversight in communicating changes, ideas, policies and procedures, direction and plans and to receive spiritual oversight approvals. She must also be spirit-led and must set an example of holiness and integrity.

**Mission Statement:** Isaiah 40:31, 'But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.' Lord, as we – holy women of God – walk together considering Your Word, teach us as Godly women not only to be a hearer of the Word but let us be a doer by presenting our bodies as living sacrifices (Rom. 12:2) by living in light of Your Word, through us submitting and yielding our bodies to the Spirit's control – in our attitude, mouth, hands, and ears. We are not a slave to sin anymore but let us live our life to righteousness leading to holiness (Rom. 6:19) in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Youth Choir/Praise Team**

**Ministry Leader: Sis. Jaqueline (Jackie) Woodley**

**General Responsibilities:** Our Youth Choir/Praise Team Ministry is made up of youth who seek to glorify God through corporate worship.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to assist Pastor and the congregation with Praise and worship. This atmosphere will be set to see God's glory through song. We also desire to minister and create songs that



will prepare and motivate the hearts and minds of youth to gain a greater understanding of God's will through ages 6 to 16.

### Youth Dance Team

**Ministry Leader:** Sis. Patrica (Pat) Diggs

**General Responsibilities:** The CLC Youth Dance ministry provides a Christ centered environment where children can learn to use the fine arts as a form of worship and a tool for ministry to our church and our community. Not only do we focus on dance technique, but we provide an outlet for individuals to glorify God through the creative arts.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to bring glory to God through praise dance while using our gifts and talents. We worship Him, not only through dance, but also the Word of God and prayer. We want to develop praise dancers who live by sound biblical teaching, growing through evangelism and discipleship and then discipline others to do the same so that they will also understand that our dancing is to glorify God and bring Him honor. "Let them praise His name with dancing and make music to Him..." (Ps. 149:3).



