

## **Article 2: Statement of Faith and Function of the Mohican Church of the Brethren**

### **Section 1: The Statement of Faith of the Mohican Church of the Brethren**

- A. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God and is, therefore, the final authority for faith and life.

*1 Thess 2:13; 2 Tim 3:15-17; Matt 7:24-27*

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

*Gen 1:26; Matt 3:13-17; Matt 28:19; John 10:30; Eph 4:4-6*

- C. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus 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, and in His personal return in power and glory.

*Matt 1:23; John 1:1-4; John 1:29; Acts 1:11; Acts 2:22-24; Rom 8:34; 1Cor 15:3-4; 2 Cor 5:21; Phil 2:5-11; Heb 1:1-4; Heb 4:15*

- D. We believe that all men everywhere are lost and face the judgement of God, that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, and that for salvation of lost and sinful man, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit.

*Luke 24:46-47; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Rom 3:23; 2 Cor 5:10-11; Eph 1:7; Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7; James 1:13:15*

- E. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose indwelling enables the Christian to live a Godly life. The Holy Spirit also gives guidance, comforts and unites believers with the Lord and with one another.

*John 3:5-8; Acts 1:8; Acts 4:31; Rom 8:9; 1 Cor 2:14; Gal 5:16-18; Eph 6:12*

- F. We believe that Satan is the author of sin and the catalyst of the fall of man; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire.

*Job 1:6-7; Isa 14:12-17; Matt 4:2-11; Matt 25:41; James 1:13-15; Rev 20:10*

- G. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of eternal life and the lost unto the resurrection of damnation and eternal punishment.

*1 Cor 15:51-57; Rev 20:11-15*

- H. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ and that all true believers are members of His body, the Church.

*John 17:20-23; 1 Cor 12:12, 27; Eph 1:22-23; Eph 4:1-6*

- I. We believe in and practice water baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper as acts of obedience for the Church in this age.

*Matt 28:19-20; Acts 2:38-42; Acts 8:36-38; 1 Cor 11:23-26*

- J. We believe God's plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only within the context of marriage, and He has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage. God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete one another. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason, we believe that marriage is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female, for life.

*Gen 2:24; Matt 19:5-6; Mark 10:6-9; Rom 1:26-27; 1 Cor 6:9*

- K. We believe that we must dedicate ourselves to prayer, to the service of our Lord, to His authority over our lives, and to the ministry of evangelism. We believe that the ministry of evangelism and discipleship is a responsibility of all followers of Jesus Christ.

*Matt 9:35-38; Matt 22:37-39; Matt 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Rom 10:9-15; Gal 6:10; Col 2:6-10; 1 Pet 3:15*

- L. We believe that human life is sacred from conception to its natural end; and that we must have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellow men.

*Gen 1:26-27; Ps 139:13-16; Isa 49:1; Jer 1:5; Matt 22:37-39; Rom 12:20-21; Gal 6:10*

- M. We believe that God has created and ordained all governing authorities and we are called to submit to these authorities as an act of obedience to God and as imitators of Jesus Christ's suffering on the cross. Every person falls under the earthly jurisdiction of the authority, however, we are all judged by God and the authority of His Word. We believe that we must obey the governing authority unless it requires us to act contrary to our faith at which time "we must obey God rather than men."

*Rom 13:1-7; Heb 13:17; 1 Pet 2:13-25; Acts 5:29*

- N. The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing Statement of Faith accurately represents the teachings of the Bible.

*1 Thess 2:13*