

BOWNE MENNONIITE CHURCH

CORE BELIEFS

God

There is one true, all-holy God, comprising of three distinct entities: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. While all three of these entities are equal in position, they each are unique in their roles as God. God is eternal having no beginning or end.

Jesus Christ

Eternal God who became man, virgin born of Mary, lived among us, gave His physical life as the only sufficient sacrifice to pay for our sins, arose bodily from the grave, and has ascended back to Heaven. Has been exalted as Lord and will return to earth one day as King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Holy Spirit

The Spirit of God sent to take Jesus' place who lives inside each believer, convicting, encouraging and directing our lives. He enables our ministry through special enablement via spiritual gifting.

The Bible

The Bible in its entirety is God's living, unchangeable Word upon which we base all of life's design for living. God communicates His will to His followers through the Bible.

*S*alvation

Every person who has ever or will ever live is born a sinner. this is the result of the first man, Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden at the beginning of time. Man's sin created a chasm of separation which man could not cross. Jesus, the Son of God, was the only one who could make a bridge for helpless man to once again be able to be acceptable to God by the forgiveness offered to every man through His sacrificial death on the cross. When man accepts Jesus' sacrifice as his own, he is brought into the family of God and is granted eternal life in Heaven.

*C*hurch

All who have experienced salvation are members of Christ's Church universal. However, the Bible commands believers to regularly gather together with other believers to experience worship, prayer, the teaching of God's Word, fellowship, the observance of communion and baptism and to develop talents and gifts used to witness hope to those who are not part of Gods church

*H*uman Destiny

All people who have ever or will ever live will experience a final resurrection. Believers will be received into eternal communion with God in the beautiful place prepared for believers—Heaven. Those who chose not to believe and receive salvation will receive the judgment of their sin, an eternal sentence of separation from God and cast into a place prepared for Satan, his demons and all unbelievers. Christ's desire and our hope is that all will come to believe and escape the horrors of an eternal hell.

*B*aptism

As a public display of the salvation experience we are asked to be baptized with water and the Holy Spirit. Water flowing down over the new believer is a symbol of the overflowing Holy Spirit who has in-filled the new believer