ARTICLES OF FAITH

**PINES BROOK BAPTIST CHURCH**

1444 Pines Brook Road

Walton, NY 13856

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**ARTICLES OF FAITH**

**ARTICLE I. THE BIBLE**

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbal plenary inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, the complete and final revelation of God's will to man, the supreme standard of all faith and practice. (*Isaiah 40:8; II Timothy 3:16-17; John 10:35; II Peter 1:19-21*)

**ARTICLE II. GOD**

We believe in God, eternal, omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent, manifesting Himself in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Ghost - one in nature, attributes, power and glory. (*Genesis 1:1; Mark 12:29; Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 13:14; John 1:1-4,14,18; Acts 5:3-4; Proverbs 30:4*)

**ARTICLE III. JESUS CHRIST**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary and, that He is true God and true man. (*Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-35; John 1:1-4; 5:17-27; Philippians 2:6-11*)

**ARTICLE IV. HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature, the administrator of things of God, active in creation, that He convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment, that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, reveals Christ, teaches the truth, restrains evil, energizes believers in prayer, worship and service; and is ever present in the believer as our comforter and helper. (*Psalm 139:7-12; John 7:38-39; Matthew 28:19; Hebrews 9:14; Luke 1:35; Genesis 1:1-3; John 16:8-11; Acts 5:30-32; Romans 8:14,16,26-27; John 14:16-17; 15:26; 16:13-14; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:9;*

*I Corinthians 6:19; II Thessalonians 2*)

**ARTICLE V. SATAN**

We believe in the reality and personality of Satan; that he is a created being of great beauty and power, the prince of the world, the god of this age, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience; that he fell through pride, and that he will be judged and cast into the everlasting lake of fire. (*Ezekiel 28:12-18; Ephesians 2:2; Isaiah 14:12-14; Job 1:6-7; John 8:44; II Corinthians 4:4; 11:13-15; Revelation 20:1-3, 7-10*)

**ARTICLE VI. CREATION**

We believe in the Genesis account of Creation; that God created all things in six twenty-four-hour days from nothing and that man came by the direct creation of God and not by evolution. (*Genesis 1-2; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17*)

**ARTICLE VII. MAN**

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature, totally depraved, and are sinners in thought, word and deed. (*Genesis 1:26; 2:7-9,16-17; 3:1-19; Psalm 14:3-4; 51:5; 58:3; Romans 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3*)

**ARTICLE VIII. SALVATION**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a substitutionary sacrifice, and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood on the cross, and are saved by grace through faith, wholly apart from human merit and works. (*John 1:29; Acts 16:31; Romans 3:21-28; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:3-8*)

**ARTICLE IX. REGENERATION**

We believe that all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, and thereby become the children of God, that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God. (*II Corinthians 5:17; I John 5:1; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1; John 3:3-8,14-16; John 1:12-13; 5:24; 10:28-29; I Peter 1:4-11; I John 3:1-3*)

**ARTICLE X. ETERNAL SECURITY**

We believe that all who have been truly born again by the Spirit of God through faith in Christ are eternally secure. We believe it is the privilege of all such to be assured of their present salvation and eternal security. (*John 5:24; 10:20-29; II Timothy 1:12; Philippians 1:6; Romans 8:33-39*)

**ARTICLE XI. THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH**

We believe that at any moment the rapture of the saved may occur before any part of the Great Tribulation, when "the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven" to catch up His people to meet Him in the air; and so, shall we ever be with the Lord. (*John 14:1-3; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Corinthians 15:51-58*)

**ARTICLE XII. THE RETURN OF CHRIST**

We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, His ascension, His present life at the right hand of God in heaven for us, as our High Priest and Advocate and His personal bodily, visible, premillennial return to establish His Kingdom on earth and to reign as the only potentate, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (*Luke 24:26-43; John 20:24-29; Acts 1:9-10; I Corinthians 15:20-25; I Timothy 6:14-15; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-16; 20:6*)

**ARTICLE XIII. HEAVEN AND HELL**

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all the dead, the saved to a life of eternal glory and bliss in heaven with God; the unsaved to eternal judgment of conscious suffering and woe in the lake of fire. (*John 5:28-29; Revelation 20:6,11-15; 21:1-8; Matthew 10:28; 18:8-9; 25:41-46; Mark 9:49; II Thessalonians 1:6-9*)

**ARTICLE XIV. SEPARATION**

We believe that we are called to be a personal or ecclesiastical separated people, to abide in Christ, to walk in the Spirit and to enjoy victory over the world, the flesh and the devil. (*Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 5:16; I John 2:15-17; Colossians 3:17; II Corinthians 2:14-17; Amos 3:3; II John 9-11; Romans 16:17-18; I Corinthians 5:9-11; II Thessalonians 3:6*)

**ARTICLE XV. EVANGELISM**

We believe that it is the privilege and responsibility of every believer to be a personal soul winner and to do his utmost to give the Gospel of Christ to the whole world. (*Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8; Matthew 4:19; John 17:18; 20:21; II Corinthians 5:20*)

**ARTICLE XVI. LOCAL CHURCH**

We believe that a Local Church is a body of believers immersed upon the credible confession in Jesus Christ, having two offices (Pastor and Deacon) sovereign in polity, and bonded together for work, worship, the observance of the ordinances and the world-wide proclamation of the Gospel.

**A. ORDINANCES**

We believe that there are two ordinances of the Local Church, Baptism and the Lord's Supper. (*Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; I Corinthians 11:23-32; Matthew 3:16*)

1. BAPTISM -We believe that believer's baptism by immersion is the Scriptural mode.

2. THE LORD'S SUPPER -The Lord's Supper shall normally be served to the assembled church by the pastor (or some person designated by the church) and the deacons on the first Sunday of February, April, June, August, October, and December, and/or at the discretion of the deacons. Since it is the Lord's Table, none who are His shall be barred, but the pastor shall frequently state the Scriptural order, and shall explain the meaning of the ordinance.

**B. OF THE GIFTS**

We believe that the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance) are the evidences of His indwelling rather than the speaking in tongues and other spectacular demonstrations. We believe that the sign gifts have served their purpose in the Apostolic Era with the birth of the Church and the completion of God's revelation to man, the Bible, and are therefore no longer in existence. (*I Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 2:20-22; I Corinthians 13:8; Hebrews 2:3-4; Galatians 5:22-23*)

**C. CHURCH FINANCES**

We believe the only method of financing God's work is to be the free will tithes and offerings of God's people as set forth in the Scriptures. (*II Corinthians 8:12; Leviticus 27:30-33; Malachi 3: 10-12*)

**D.** **ORGANIZATIONS**

We believe that all organizations (Women's Missionary Fellowship, youth groups, etc.) within the local church, or those with whom the local church fellowships, are subject to the **autonomy of the local church.**

**ARTICLE XVIII. CIVIL GOVERNMENT**

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming King of Kings of the earth. (*Romans 13:1-7; II Samuel 23:3; Exodus 18:21-22; Acts 23:5; Matthew 22:21; Acts 5:20; 4:19-20; Daniel 3:17-18*)