

THE FAITH MESSENGER

We will be presenting a series of Chapters from the Westminster Confession of Faith for your study and review. The stated beliefs are part of the doctrinal standards of the Presbyterian Church in America.

WESTMINSTER CONFSSION OF FAITH

Chapter III

Of God's Eternal Decree

I. God from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will, freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass; yet so, as thereby neither is God the author of sin, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures; nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established.

II. Although God knows whatsoever may or can come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet has he not decreed anything because he foresaw it as future, or as that which would come to pass upon such conditions.

III. By the decree of God, for the manifestation of his glory, some men and angels are predestinated unto everlasting life; and others foreordained to everlasting death.

IV. These angels and men, thus predestinated, and foreordained, are particularly and unchangeably designed, and their number so certain and definite, that it cannot be either increased or diminished.

V. Those of mankind that are predestinated unto life, God, before the foundation of the world was laid, according to his eternal and immutable purpose, and the secret counsel and good pleasure of his will, has chosen, in Christ, unto everlasting glory, out of his mere free grace and love, without any foresight of faith, or good works, or perseverance in either of them, or any other thing in the creature, as conditions, or causes moving Him thereunto; and all to the praise of his glorious grace.

VI. As God has appointed the elect unto glory, so has He, by the eternal and most free purpose of his will, foreordained all the means thereunto. Wherefore, they who are elected, being fallen in Adam, are redeemed by Christ, are effectually called unto faith in Christ by his Spirit working in due season, are justified, adopted, sanctified, and kept by his power, through faith, unto salvation. Neither are any other redeemed by Christ, effectually called, justified, adopted, sanctified, and saved, but the elect only.

VII. The rest of mankind God was pleased, according to the unsearchable counsel of his own will, whereby he extends or withholds mercy, as he pleases, for the glory of his sovereign power over his creatures, to pass by; and to ordain them to dishonor and wrath for their sin, to the praise of his glorious justice.

VIII. The doctrine of this high mystery of predestination is to be handled with special prudence and care, that men, attending the will of God revealed in his Word, and yielding obedience thereunto, may, from the certainty of their effectual vocation, be assured of their eternal election. So shall this doctrine afford matter of praise, reverence, and admiration of God; and of humility, diligence, and abundant consolation to all that sincerely obey the Gospel

Upcoming in October and November

Enjoy some great BBQ prepared by FCA on Saturday, October 13th from 11 to 2pm. Tickets are \$8. 00 each. Mark your calendar!

We will continue to have our lunch and prayer time for the remainder of 2018. We will meet at 12:10pm every other Wednesday in the month. This is a special time of fellowship and sharing in our prayer needs. Join us if you can!



We will gather on **November 11 at 6pm** for our Operation Christmas Child packing party. If you have not already, continue to purchase your packing items. We will enjoy fellowship and a great meal followed by packing those boxes!!

Ongoing Prayer Needs:

- Mike Welsh-Recovering at home from knee surgery
- Zach Couture-Continuing health issues- in and out of the hospital
- Michael Blackman-At home-still having issues
- Friends in the community battling cancer: Jerry Therrell, Mickey Workman

From the PCA website:

Major flooding is the calling card that has been left by Hurricane Florence. This flooding extends throughout many areas in NC and SC. Many homes have been catastrophically affected and at least one PCA church in SC has been flooded. Some roads are still underwater but enough have been cleared that we are ready to mobilize disaster response volunteers to help those who have been impacted by this hurricane. Many MNA Disaster Response First Responders and Key Leaders have already been on the ground helping with initial needs and assessments.

How you can help:

1. **PRAY** – for those who have been impacted by this storm and those who are responding
2. **GIVE** – please give generously. The financial needs left in the wake of this storm are tremendous. To mail your gift, make your check out to ‘MNA Disaster Response’ and mark ‘For Hurricane Florence Relief’ and mail to: **Mission to North America, PO Box 890233, Charlotte NC 289289-2033.** (Please know that MNA does not charge any fees for services so 100% of all donations to a designated event go to meet the needs presented by that event.)
3. **GO** – Volunteer Staging Sites have been set up at Wilmington and New Bern in NC and Mullins SC – serving Mullins, Dillon and Conway SC. For more information, visit www.pcamna.org.