

## WHO WE ARE

The Chapel of the Lake was chartered in 1971 as Lake St. Louis' first church. Our ministry has grown to include serving the spiritual needs of many surrounding communities as well. We are a non-denominational, family-friendly church which approaches Christianity from a relevant and Biblical perspective.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

† The Scriptures are God's revelation to man. They are God-inspired, inerrant and authoritative in the original manuscripts. *Reference: 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21 and Matthew 5:18.*

† The living, eternal and true God is One, made known in the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Reference: Deuteronomy 6:4, and 2 Corinthians 13:14.*

† The Lord Jesus Christ is eternal God Himself. We believe in His virgin birth, real humanity, real deity, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, and literal return to earth. *Reference: John 1:1, Luke 1:34-35, Hebrews 1:6-9, Hebrews 10:2, Corinthians 5:21, Mark 16:6, Acts 1:11, and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.*

† The Holy Spirit is the member of the Godhead that convicts, regenerates, indwells, baptizes into the body of Christ, teaches and empowers every believer. *Reference: John 16:8, John 3:6, John 14:16, 1 Corinthians 12:13, John 14:25, and Acts 1:8.*

† The fall of man into sin has resulted in his separation from God. The remedy to man's sin has been accomplished through the finished work of Christ and must be personally received as a gift by faith. *Reference: Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, and Ephesians 2:8-9.*

† The Church is the body of Christ comprised of all those who have been "born again" by faith in Jesus Christ, and its mission is to disciple all nations, presenting the gospel to them. *Reference: Ephesians 5:23-32, Colossians 1:18, John 3:3, Matthew 28:19-20, and 1 Corinthians 1:17-25.*

† The believer will be physically resurrected into the eternal presence of God, while all others will endure conscious eternal torment. *Reference: 1 Corinthians 15:51-55, Revelation 20:11-15, and John 5:21-29.*

## OUR DISTINCTIVES

We accept the supreme authority of the Word of God. *The Bible is the only guide for faith and practice. It is the grid through which we are to evaluate our experiences and opinions, not vice versa.*

We believe in the normal (literal) interpretation of Scripture. *This means that the plain, ordinary reading of a text (a literal reading) is understood as its meaning, unless the text itself suggests that it is to be understood figuratively or allegorically.*

We believe that God keeps those He saves to eternal life. *Although some people may make professions of faith who are not genuinely converted, all who are converted will be saved. The faithful believer in Christ, therefore, can have assurance of salvation.*

We believe Christian growth is a process, not an instantaneous achievement. *At the moment of conversion- when we place our faith in Jesus- we are saved from sin's penalty, and our future in heaven is secured. However, sanctification- being conformed to the image of God's Son- is a lifelong process which culminates in heaven.*

We believe that the Church, the Body of Christ, is distinct from national Israel. *In this present age, God is working in the Church. At the end of this age God will remove the Church and consummate his program with national Israel which is now largely in unbelief.*

We believe in Divine creation. *God is the Creator of the universe. Creation itself is the greatest evidence of the Creator, and some have suppressed that knowledge to avoid accountability to God.*

We believe every Christian has the Holy Spirit living within them, and has been gifted by Him to serve Christ. *However, no specific spiritual gift is to be possessed by every believer. No particular gift is a sign of spirituality, nor of greater enablement, nor of the Spirit's indwelling or filling.*