

BELHAR CONFSSION

We believe:

That Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

That unity is therefore both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ. That through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force.

That simultaneously it is a reality that must be earnestly pursued and sought—one that the people of God must continually be built up to attain.

That this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity, and hatred between people and groups is sin, which Christ has already conquered.

That, accordingly, anything that threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

That this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways in that we love one another and experience, practice, and pursue community with one another.

That we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be a benefit and blessing to one another.

That we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind, have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause and share one hope.

That together we come to know the height and the breadth and depth of the love of Christ.

That together we are built up to the stature of Christ to the new humanity.

That together we know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another.

That we admonish and comfort one another.

That we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness.

That we pray together.

That together we serve God in this world.

That together we fight against all that may threaten or hinder this unity.