

An Introduction
to
Camp Springs Community
Church
For Visitors and those applying for Membership

Camp Springs Community Church
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Table of Contents

A1. THIS IS WHAT CAMP SPRINGS COMMUNITY CHURCH IS:	- 1 -
A2. DISTINCTIVENESS OF CAMP SPRINGS COMMUNITY CHURCH.....	- 1 -
A3. TYPICAL SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES	- 2 -
A4. REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP	- 2 -
A5. BASIC BELIEFS OF CSCC.....	- 2 -
A6. HOW ONE GROWS IN THE LORD	- 3 -
A7. ORDINANCES (RITES OF THE CHURCH).....	- 3 -
A8. CHURCH GOVERNMENT	- 4 -
A9. STEWARDSHIP.....	- 4 -
A10. RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS.....	- 4 -

An Introduction to CSCC

A1. THIS IS WHAT CAMP SPRINGS COMMUNITY CHURCH IS:

B1. Camp Springs Community Church was founded on the 4th Sunday of April, 1959 by families who wanted a Bible teaching Christ-centered church in the Camp Springs, MD area. Floyd Baker was the Pastor.

B2. From 1972-1989 CSCC operated the Camp Springs Christian School (CSCS) on its property at 5406 Brinkley Road in Camp Springs. When the school was closed in 1989, the Church sold the property and moved to 8040 Woodyard Road in a new facility, having paid cash for its construction. The new facility included 18,500 sq ft of building with auditorium, educational wing, and gymnasium on 6.75 acres of land. Currently the Church's home school oversight ministry (umbrella group) is using the school name.

B3. In 1987 the Church joined the Independent Fundamental Churches of America (now, IFCA, International) which is a fellowship of independent Bible churches.

B4. CSCC believes in the verbal plenary inspiration (in all parts and every word) of the Word of God as presented in its original autographs (the actual writings of the authors of Scripture). We hold to the infallibility of Scripture in its original form (not copies or translations) and believe that excellent copies and versions exist today that rightly reflect the intent of the original writings.

B5. CSCC is dedicated to fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) by sharing Christ with those who are lost, by bringing new converts to a mature faith (Colossians 1:28), and by supporting missionaries and church planters who will do the same elsewhere (several missionaries have been sent out from CSCC and dozens receive ongoing support).

B6. CSCC encourages believers to serve, grow, love the brethren, reach the lost, and provide repentance (2 Corinthians. 5:17-18). As witnesses for the Lord, believers are to every seek to help develop mature saints (Colossians 1:28).

A2. DISTINCTIVENESS OF CAMP SPRINGS COMMUNITY CHURCH

B1. A fundamental church (literal interpretation of Bible).

B2. A friendly family church emphasizing grace and truth.

B3. Dispensational, believing that God is working in a different fashion in the Church Age, after the coming of Christ, than He did through the system of Law in the Old Testament.

B4. Pre-millennial, Pretribulational (belief that the church will be raptured as a prelude to the Great Tribulation and Millennial reign of Christ – 1 Corinthians 15:35-58, 2 Thessalonians 2 & 4)

B5. CSCC is not a part of the modern Pentecostal or charismatic renewal movement. We believe that the sign gifts of miraculously speaking in a foreign tongue and signs and wonders were First century signs to unrepentant Jews and as such ended with the Fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD or at the latest with the completion of the New Testament around 95 AD. God still performs miracles

today, but the sign gifts ceased at the end of the First century (Acts 2, 1 Corinthians. 12-14).

B6. We believe in personal evangelism, discipleship, and stewardship on behalf of all believers.

B7. We support world missions and church plants.

A3. TYPICAL SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

B1. Sunday school for all ages

B2. Sunday AM and PM services

B3. Midweek prayer and Bible Study on Wednesday with AWANA, youth activities, and school year family dinners

B4. Summer Patch the Pirate program for children

B5. Vacation Bible School

B6. Good News Club for children

B7. Midweek day Bible Study

B8. Sports and social programs

B9. Choir, special music, dramas, worship teams

B10. Youth program

B11. Mission conferences and evangelism training programs

A4. REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP

B1. Must be a born again Christian (John 3:16)

B2. Must have been baptized as a believer

B3. Must fill out a membership application form

B4. Must agree to abide by Church Constitution

A5. BASIC BELIEFS OF CSCC

B1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God and is sufficient for all direction in life to attain to godliness (2 Peter 1:3-21, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12)

B2. All people are sinners, falling short of God's glory (Isaiah 64:6, Romans 3:10, 23, 7:18), and are therefore separated from God and hope of eternal life (Romans 6:23, John 3:17-18)

B3. Jesus Christ is God the Son (trine God is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Hebrews 10) who came in the flesh to take away the sins of the world through His atoning substitutionary death (John 1:1-3, 14, Romans 5:8-21). Jesus was resurrected by the Father and now sits at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us and awaiting the time when He will come back to earth to rapture His Church (Romans 10:9-10, Acts 1:1-12, Hebrews 4:14-16, 1 Corinthians 15:51-58, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

B4. For one to receive eternal life, one has to ask the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive one's sins and to come into one's life. The confession of Christ as one's Savior is by faith, trusting in His promises in the Scripture (John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 10:9-10). Once one has truly received Christ, the Holy Spirit comes into one's life, sealing one in such a way that one is unable to lose one's salvation (John 6:47, Romans 8:31-39, John 1:12, 1 John 5:12-13, John 20:30-31, Ephesians 1:13-14, Romans 8).

B5. One day all saints (name for believers in New Testament) will be glorified, receiving a perfect eternal body (Romans 8:29-30, Revelations 21-22, 1 Corinthians 15:35-58). For now, however, believers must yield to the Spirit and obey the Bible in order to grow spiritually (Ephesians 4:22-24, John 1:22-25, 4:1-3) avoid chastisement (Hebrews 12:5-13) and to receive eternal rewards (1 Corinthians 3:12-15). This is called progressive sanctification.

A6. HOW ONE GROWS IN THE LORD

B1. Study, memorization, and submission to Scripture (James 1:22-25, Psalms 119:11, 2 Timothy 2:15).

B2. An active prayer life of praise to God, thanksgiving, confession of sin, and making requests for self and others (Luke 18:1, Philippians 4:4-8, 1 John 1:7-2:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:15-22, James 4:1-3, 5:16). Some have found it helpful to use the acrostic "ACTS" (Adoration + Confession + Thanksgiving + Supplication). Remember, confession includes admitting wrong motives, not obeying, wrong thoughts, and actual sins.

B3. Worship is a life that praises God in word and deed (Psalms 150, Luke 6:46, John 14:15).

B4. Fellowship with other believers both in and out of Church is essential to one's growth (Hebrews 10:24-25, 2 Timothy 2:2, Titus 2:3-5, 1 Peter 5:1-5). We are to encourage each other to grow in the Lord. Faithful church attendance is essential.

B5. To share your faith with others and serve Him in various capacities necessary to please the Lord (Romans 10:13-17, Matthew 10:32-33, Romans 2:6-8). We are to use the gifts God has given to us to help others in the Body (1 Corinthians 12, 1 Peter 4:10-11, James 2).

A7. ORDINANCES (RITES OF THE CHURCH)

B1. Baptism is the rite of being immersed or dipped in water after one has become a believer. (The Scriptures do not recognize infant baptism. There is no entrance into the New Testament covenant by being baptized as a child.) Baptism is done by commandment of the Lord (Matthew 28:18-20), does not save anyone (John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8-9), was done by immersion (Matthew 3:16, Acts 8:12, 16:30-33), and was a testimony that one was already saved, identifying with Christ. Baptism symbolizes the washing away of sins, the coming of the Holy Spirit into a life, confirms one's ongoing commitment to the Lord (Ecclesiastes 5:4), and is a testimonial to all present of that commitment.

C1. As a practical matter, one should wear casual dark clothing to one's baptism and bring a handkerchief, towel, hair dryer, and change of church clothes.

C2. One can be a believer without being baptized, but one cannot be an obedient believer

B2. The Lord's Supper, or communion, is to be served often. The Scriptures do not give a recommended frequency for this service, but states that as often as we do it, we do remember the Lord's death until He comes again. It is a means of fellowship with the Lord, recommitment to the Lord, and worship of the Lord. It

encourages the saints to continue onward by forsaking sins and obeying the Lord (1 Corinthians. 11:23-32). At CSCC, we have communion once a month and special communions during the year.

A8. CHURCH GOVERNMENT

B1. A combined Church board of deacons and elders (1 Peter 5:1-5, 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1, Acts 6) governs CSCC.

B2. There is an annual business meeting in November to elect church officers (elders are appointed by the Board), passing the annual budget for the following year, and the consideration of any Constitutional amendments.

A9. STEWARDSHIP

B1. We believe in tithing 1/10 of a family's income to the Lord with special offerings above this amount (Malachi 3:10-11, 2 Corinthians 9:6-15). We believe that the Church is the storehouse for this tithe, though offerings are also to go to missions for the furtherance of the Kingdom as well. Even though the tithe is an Old Testament concept, it is a good benchmark for the Church. The New Testament concept is quite simple: those who sow sparingly (give little) will reap sparingly (have little fruit and reward) and those who sow much (give much and serve much) will reap much (gain much reward). God leaves the giving up to the saint, but most believers will be disappointed and ashamed when they stand before the Lord, for they gave and served sparingly (1 Corinthians 3:11-15).

B2. A believer should give willingly, having already given himself to the Lord (Romans 12:1-3). CSCC does not hold individual members accountable for their giving, believing that giving is a personal matter between a saint and the Lord.

A10. RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS

B1. Voting members must attend at least 50% (two services per week) of the weekly church services to be eligible to vote at official business meetings.

B2. Officers of the corporation are expected to attend all the official services of the Church unless hindered from doing so and are encouraged to attend other functions as an example to the flock.

B3. Members should seek to serve on a committee and in a ministry as the Lord leads. We discourage members from becoming overloaded, making them ineffectual in the Lord's work (Psalms 127:1-2). We also encourage members to make sure they are serving the Lord inside and outside of the church. Too many believers do very little or nothing at all for the Lord. Everyone is called to do something for Him (1 Corinthians 12).

B4. Visitors and new members find that CSCC is a loving, Spirit-directed fellowship in which their participation adds to the joy and effectiveness of the Body to the praise of God. If you are looking for a bible-centered, Christ-honoring family Church in Southern Prince George's County, perhaps CSCC is the fellowship for you.