



Our Mission

BEHOLD. BELONG. BE SENT

We exist to make disciples of our Lord Jesus who behold His gospel, who belong in gospel community, and who are sent on gospel mission

Our Values

- Expository Preaching
- Biblical Community
- Spirit-Filled Service
- Meaningful membership

What is a Church?

Read Acts 2:42-47

A Church is a group of Christians, who assemble as an earthly embassy of Christ's heavenly kingdom to proclaim the good news and commands of Christ the King; to affirm one another as his citizens through the ordinances; and to display God's own holiness and love through a unified and diverse people in all the world, following the teaching and example of elders

*From *Rediscover Church* by Collin Hansen and Jonathan Leeman

Pictures of the Church

- Read Romans 12:4-5 - The Church is a Body
- Read 1 Peter 5:1-5 - The Church is a Flock
- Read Ephesians 2:10 - The Church is a Household
- Read 1 Peter 2:5 - The Church is a Temple

So what? These metaphors imply interdependence NOT independence. Christians are meant to be a part of a local church.

Who leads the Church?

Jesus is the chief Shepherd of the church, but he has tasked qualified undershepherds or elders with leading each local church.

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Peter 5:1-5

- **Elders** lead in teaching/preaching, oversight, shepherding, and by setting an example to the members

ONE OFFICE. SEVERAL FUNCTIONS

- An elder is a pastor and an overseer

From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the **elders** [*presbuteros*] of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them...."Be on guard for ourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy spirit has made you **overseers** [*episkopous*], to **shepherd** [*poimainein*] the church of God which He purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20:17-18, 28)

See also 1 Peter 5:1-2



Discipleship & Donuts

CLASS 1: POLITY & THEOLOGY



Our Polity

Church polity can simply be defined as how a church governs itself and how its leadership is structured.

Redemption Hill functions as an elder-led, member affirmed congregational model of church governance. We believe that there are two offices in a New Testament church: the office of elder and the office of deacon. See *1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; Philippians 1:1-2; Acts 20:17-32; 1 Peter 5:1-5; Romans 16:1-2*

learn more us at
rhccartersville.com

ELDERS LEAD AS A PLURALITY

Read the texts again. Are elders addressed in the singular or in the plural? Why is this so?

ELDERS LEAD AS MEN

We unashamedly hold to the theological viewpoint of complementarianism. Why? Because it is how God designed us. *God created men and women to complement each other as his image bearers, assigning them different roles within the home and the church.* Men are given the responsibility of headship in both the home and the church, which means the office of elder is reserved for qualified males according to Scripture. This does not imply that women cannot serve or be valuable in the church; rather, it means that men and women are meant to complement each other in their distinct roles, with men taking on the responsibility of spiritual leadership in the home and the church. See Genesis 1:26-27, 1 Timothy 2:11-3:5, & 1 Corinthians 11:11-12

Read 1 Timothy 3:8-13, Philippians 1:1, Romans 16:1-2

- **Deacons** lead in service to the church. The term deacon (*diakonos*) means minister or servant. The deacons, under the leadership and direction of the elders, serve in areas where ministering to the needs of the church is of primary importance

Can women be deacons?

This topic has been hotly debated for centuries, with faithful church leaders on both sides of the issue. Since deacons do not hold authoritative positions or bear the responsibility of spiritually leading the church, we believe women can serve as deacons if they meet the biblical criteria.

Scripture indicates that: 1. Phoebe was a deacon of the church in Cenchreae (Romans 16:1-2). The structure ___ of the church of ___ always implies a specific role or office in the NT. 2. The term "women" (*gynē*) in 1 Timothy 3:11 is better understood as referring to female deacons rather than "wives" in outlining the qualifications for deacons

*Many churches have women in leadership roles, often in administration, women's ministries, and children's ministries. However, unless these women are recognized as deacons and meet biblical qualifications, churches may create titles without biblical precedent. Therefore, we believe in having male pastors as the senior leaders of the church. These pastors, with the members' approval, can appoint both male and female deacons as lead servants.



Responsibilities of membership

- Attend the Sunday gathering regularly
- Attend member meetings consistently
- Be involved in a Gospel Community Group consistently
- Serve regularly
- Give regularly
- Submit humbly
- Pray for your leaders and one another
- Strive for gospel unity

What is a member?

A church member is a christian who has professed faith in Jesus, identified with him in baptism, and has intentionally committed to love, serve, and be accountable to other members, while being led by qualified Pastors.

In a sense, membership is about accountability, community, and intentionality. Membership is really about living a life of repentance and faith.

What else do members do?

- Read Acts 6:1-6 - Members affirm the leadership of the church
- Read Matthew 18:15-20 - Members participate in church discipline if necessary
- Read Heb 13:17-18 - Members submit to and pray for the leaders of the church
- Read Galatians 1:9 - Members guard the doctrine of the church

Are we a part of a denomination?

No, but we are not isolated. We believe that local churches should collaborate in advancing the Kingdom. Currently, we are part of a church planting network called Acts 29.

Acts 29 is a global organization and network of churches committed to planting gospel-centered, healthy churches around the world. This network is united by shared relationships, theology, and a passion for church planting.

To learn more about Acts 29, visit acts29.com

Our Leadership

To view our current leadership, visit rhccartersville.com/our-leadership



Our Theology

- Protestant
- Orthodox
- Reformed
- Credo Baptist

Notes

Theological Unity

Read Acts 2:42 - What did this group of believers devote themselves to? Read Jude 3. In your own words, to what is Jude exhorting his readers? Why is theological unity important?

Our Confessional Statement

Though there are differences amongst members, we are united around a common set of doctrinal beliefs. The fullest expression of our theological beliefs are found in the London Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689. We believe that this historic document is an excellent summary of the fundamental truths of God's Word. We accept it, not as an authoritative rule or code of faith, but as an aid to us in times of controversy, a confirmation to us of what we believe, and as a means of growing together in grace.

Our confessional Statement is used for **clarity**, but we allow for **charity** in this to those who may not fully embraced some of the statements made in the confession*

It's best to summarize our beliefs into these 4 categories:

We are Protestant - We affirm the 5 Solas of the protestant reformation, which are grounded firmly in God's Word.

The five solas of the Reformation, which distinguished the Reformers from the teachings of Rome, include sola scriptura (Scripture alone), solus Christus (Christ alone), sola fide (faith alone), sola gratia (grace alone), and soli Deo gloria (glory to God alone).

We are Orthodox - Orthodox can mean a few things. When it comes to our theology, we mean that we believe in the ancient creeds and confessions that have been preserved throughout the ages for the health of the church.



Notes

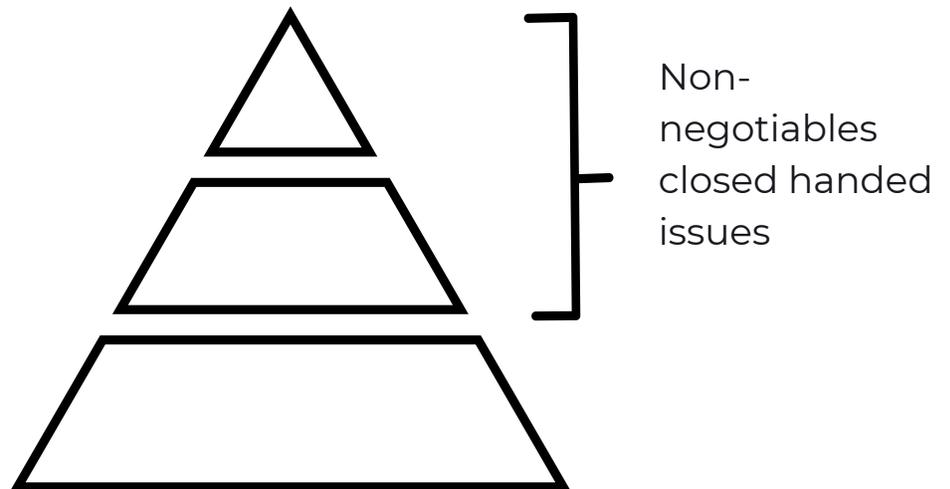
We are Reformed - We unashamedly embrace God's sovereignty in all things, including our own salvation. In saying this, we do not negate human responsibility to believe the gospel by faith.

Rather than finding contention in this doctrine, we aim to find comfort in knowing God is in control working all things for His Glory and our good (Romans 8:28).

We are Credobaptist - We believe baptism is a sign and seal of one's salvation that is to be performed AFTER an individual has expressed faith in the Lord Jesus for salvation.

Baptism is not salvific. However, baptism is important. It is an outward, distinguishing ordinance that displays the beauty of the gospel in the life of a believer, while encouraging other believers who are a witness.

Theological Triage



For more information regarding our theological convictions, please read our theological statement found at rhccartersville.com/our-theology

Sign up for class 2 at rhccartersville.com/membership



**Sign up for Class 2:
Practice & Process**



Name

Email

Phone

Date

Are you interested in pursuing meaningful membership at Redemption Hill church? YES. NO. NOT SURE YET.

Give us some feedback

Did you find the class helpful? Explain

What questions do you still have about our Polity & Theology?