

Statement of Faith
Miguel Aragón

My personal beliefs center on a profound sense of gratitude to Jesus Christ and an abiding sense of His presence in my life.

I believe that Jesus is the incarnate Son of God and Savior of the world, and our one true pathway to God. As Jesus proclaims in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me." Jesus gave His life for my sins and the sins of the world, and He guides me daily to walk in His paths of light as a child of God's Word who truly came to us in living flesh, fully human and fully divine. He reveals God's full nature to humankind. It is the primary goal of my ministry that others know of Christ's love and grace as I have come to know them.

The primary attribute that Jesus reveals about one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit is that God is love. This means that above all else the Almighty Creator of the Universe is compassionately concerned for the well-being of His creation, particularly its living creatures. There is no depth to which God will not go on their behalf, especially in regards to redemption from sin. In fact, God is love; God, as love, chose to reveal God's true nature and plan. God took the initiative to enter human history as a human being, revealing this loving nature, enduring the full heartbreak of human existence, tasting death, and rising victorious over them all in the resurrection. The gift God now gives is a similar experience of grace and power: dying to this life and rising again within a life anew. This gift is open to all who need the call of God's Spirit and receives God's love by faith through grace in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit unleashed on earth to make God's presence available to all, and to lead us into all the truth. The Spirit convicts us, and directs us to faith in Christ and salvation. The Spirit continues to work in our lives, sanctifying us to God, helping us to discover the abundant life God grants to all His children through His Son. The Spirit is likewise our Advocate and Comforter, interceding for us before the Father's throne, and giving us strength in times of sorrow and difficulty.

At the same time, God gives us His written Word as the chief tool by which we can now learn of His love, nature, and saving deeds in history. The Bible is our infallible rule of faith and practice. The scriptures are the divinely inspired objective authority by which all actions and attitudes must be judged. Therefore we place ourselves in peril when we ignore its dictates for our lives, and we enrich our lives when we joyfully obey.

The Church is the congregation of believers that Christ calls together to be His body in the world. The Church is fellowship of the redeemed who proclaim that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, and who share the ministry of reconciliation as God reforms the world.

Jesus has given us two sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, to serve as outward signs and seals of God's eternal and invisible grace. Baptism is the sign of initiation into the body of believers, given once, where recipients are marked and sealed as belonging to God. The Lord's Supper is the recurring means of grace that feed us in the journey of faith. It re-enacts the gospel and brings to remembrance all Jesus did for us in His life, death, and resurrection.

My Personal Faith Journey and Biography

Miguel Aragón

I was born in Puebla, México, and was raised in a Pentecostal home there, where my single mother introduced me and my brothers and sisters, to church life. We often went to Sunday school and worship, but as a child it meant very little to me. As I was growing up, God was working in my life but, I did not recognize God's love and grace until later on in my life.

When I was seventeen years old, God communicated a Greater Presence and Creative Power within me and I became involved in the Baptist Youth ministry, where I was introduced to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as my Savior. After acknowledging God's grace in Jesus, I became interested and involved in Bible study. Later, I became active in the Youth Program in the Primera Iglesia Bautista de Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, México. Through these experiences, I felt called to serve God and God's people as a minister.

I attended Juan Calvino seminary in México City from 1978 to 1981. For the first time I was introduced to Reformed Theology. After three years, because of a financial crisis, I moved to the United States. I started to work in Los Angeles, California and began looking for a Hispanic Presbyterian Church, but I could not find one therefore, I started attending the only Hispanic Baptist church in Norwalk, California.

Years later, while attending and teaching Sunday school there, I reunited with a professor from a seminary in México which I had attended. We were in a restaurant talking about what I was doing with the call that God had placed in my life. After this meeting, he introduced me to the Orange County Southern Baptist Association; the executive invited me to continue my studies at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. From 1992 to 1997, I continued my theological studies and received a Diploma in Theology-ELD. At the same time, I started as a "planter-church" in Anaheim 1991, and in 1994, I was ordained by the Southern Baptist Denomination in Anaheim, California. Due to the great need within the Hispanic community for counseling and because of what I was experiencing as pastor, I decided to continue studies. In October 2001, I received a Bachelor of Theology in Pastoral Ministry from the California Christian University. I organized and became the solo pastor to the same church until 2007.

In 2007, my family and I moved from California to North Carolina, which was a far better place to raise our family. When we arrived we decided to go back to our Reformed Theological roots and found Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Siler City, where I became a leader.

Later on, Pastor Lucio González of the Ebenezer Church introduced me to Rev. Eduardo Moreno who invited me to develop a new Hispanic Presbyterian mission in Lee County. Rev. Moreno introduced me to some pastors in Sanford and talked with them about the importance of developing a Hispanic Presbyterian mission. In December 2009, some members of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church of Siler City and some members and pastors of Sanford Presbyterian Churches started the first service in Jonesboro Presbyterian Church; this mission work continues until today. At the same time, I re-registered Juan Calvino International Seminary in México City to complete my Master in Theology degree and graduated on the sixteenth of June, 2012.

In 1991 I married in with Eurice Castillo in Mexico City; we currently have two children, our sixteen year old daughter, Jocabed, and our eight year old son, Moises.