

Statement of Faith

Rose M. Jones

I believe in God and in His son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit; One God, who created all things, seen and unseen. I believe God's strength and power and glory surpass anything that the human mind can imagine.

I believe that God loved us humans so much that he sent Jesus to teach us how to live, and to die for us, paying the penalty for our sins. I believe that Jesus rose from the dead and lives today. I believe that because of his death and resurrection, we too, will live in heaven with him after our earthly death because our sins have been forgiven.

I believe that the Holy Spirit empowers us to do God's will and to serve Him during our earthly lives. My purpose in life is to share God's love with others in whatever way God may call me.

Biographical Information:

Baptized in the First Presbyterian Church of Pemberville at age seven, I have been a life long Presbyterian. I grew up in that church, was married in that church, and my children were baptized in that church. I served as a Sunday school teacher, VBS teacher and director, elder, and clerk of session of the Pemberville Church. My spiritual growth has been with the leadership of the Pemberville church and the different pastors that have served there.

With a bachelor and master's degree in education, I was a teacher of 1-6 grades in Eastwood Local Schools for 30 years, although it took me 40 years to do it, as I took 10 years off from teaching to be a stay at home mom while my children were young. That is because I believe that being a mom is the most important job in the world.

I have three children, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. My husband, James, is still a ruling elder in the Pemberville church. Our children are Julie who lives in Perrysburg, Lisa who in the Chicago area, and Timothy who lives in Big Rapids, Michigan.

When I retired from teaching, I took care of my Mother whose health was declining. When that ended, I had time on my hands, and so I got involved with the church at the presbytery level. At my pastor's recommendation, I took the preaching class and loved it. Then was asked to serve on the CRE committee. As a committee member, I volunteered to take an on-line class for CRE training from Union Seminary. I really liked it, and when asked if I was going to go for it and become a CRE, I hesitated

because of my age. But encouraged by Susan, our Presbyter for Common Life, I decided that maybe I would try it.

So I started taking classes with the intent of becoming a CRE. In the meantime, Susan asked me to take part of a meet and greet, so I fill out the PIN form and turned it in, not sure if I would attend or not. Finally at the Spirit's urging, I decided to go and was last on the docket. After hearing all the Ministers of Word and Sacrament and CREs give their qualifications, I thought to myself, "Why am I even here?" and went home.

I finished packing for a Disney cruise that I was scheduled to take, leaving the next day with my family. I was at the airport with my family waiting to board the plane when my phone rang. It was the Clyde Presbyterian Church telling me that they thought I would be a good fit for their congregation and would I agree to be their part time lay pastor? Needless to say, I prayed the whole time I was on the cruise and then some, finally accepting, but asking God if he knew what he was doing.

Knowing that God does know what he is doing and that he guides us in our decisions, and knowing that he gives us the strength and energy and gifts to do his work, I have been blessed to serve the Clyde First Presbyterian Church as their lay pastor for almost two years.