

This instrument is being used in connection with the JED (Joint Education and Development) launching of a 12-denominations new curriculum, called "XnEd.: Shared Approaches--Knowing, Interpreting, Living and Doing the Word."

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

PURPOSE: The twenty-four statements below reflect some assumptions often held about our beliefs in the church. There are so many different viewpoints about what we believe that it is helpful to sort these out occasionally. The purpose of this form is to give you an opportunity to struggle with

- some basic issues about the Christian faith,
- the task of the church, and
- education within the context of faith,

and to help you clarify these particular assumptions in your own mind. It may be helpful to discuss these with other people in your congregation. This form also will provide the Educational Program Study Committee with a better understanding of what the congregation considers to be the purpose of its educational ministry.

INSTRUCTIONS: Indicate your opinion about each of the following statements on the scale from 1 to 5 in the columns provided.

Check column 1 if you *agree strongly* with the statement.

Check column 5 if you *disagree strongly*.

Check column 3 if you are *uncertain*.

Check column 2 or 4 to indicate mild agreement or disagreement.

If you find under any one of the three areas that no statement adequately expresses your personal belief, write your own statement in the space provided.

A. ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, I BELIEVE:

1. The Bible as the Word of God is without error and is the only source for understanding the meaning of the Christian faith.
2. In the Bible, God makes himself known to humankind. It is a major source for learning about and understanding the meaning of the Christian faith.
3. The Holy Spirit, who inspired the writing of the Scriptures, inspires those who faithfully read them.
4. God in Christ changes our lives and expects us to be his instruments for changing the world.
5. Because the Bible tells of the work of God in the words of human beings, it reflects the culture of those who wrote it. This must be understood if it is to speak to us in the present day.

Agree		Disagree		
1	2	3	4	5

