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# What We're About

## McArthur's History

McArthur Church began in 1969 as a Missions Church of First Assembly of God in

Jacksonville. In 1986, Rev. Larry and Marilyn Burton assumed the pastorate of a small congregation of 17 people. And that is the beginning of our story, how God has richly blessed this Church. Four building programs later, one total relocation, and the purchase of a wonderful piece of interstate property in Central Arkansas ...McArthur is ON THE MOVE.

From a struggling congregation of less than two dozen people, to over 1,100, McArthur has witnessed the hand of God upon our growth and impact as we endeavor to prepare people for eternal success.

The Vision doesn't stop here. Our goal is not to build bigger buildings or erect a memorial to man's accomplishments. Our passion is people. Our goal is to leave a lasting legacy, clear for the generations which may follow us, concerning the greatness of our God. Our commitment is to raise up tomorrow's leaders today. And, our vision is to reach everyone we meet and to disciple everyone we reach.

## What to expect when you come to McArthur?

At McArthur, you can expect to feel accepted and loved. You will be greeted at the front entrance by greeters who will welcome you, and our Ministry of Caring team will give you directions and information which you need to make your visit to McArthur an enjoyable one. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any usher, greeter, or Ministry of Caring person and they will be glad to assist you. If you would like someone to familiarize you with the facilities to help you to learn your way around, stop and ask the person at the information desk and they will connect you with someone who will show you around your new church home. We are looking forward to meeting you, your family, and your friends.

## How should I dress?

At McArthur, we place importance on the person and not on the clothing. The bible says that, "Man looks on the outward appearance, while God looks at the heart." We encourage people to dress with respect for God and we leave the choice of style and preferences up to you the worshiper. We have some people who worship in jeans and shirts, while others prefer to wear a suit. The important thing to this church is that you come and join us in loving Christ. God called us to be fishers of men; it is our job to "catch em" and it is God's job to clean them. We leave the personal preferences of life to be worked out between you and God.

## The music we sing.

Every generation has been given a voice and a song. The bible is clear when it says, "Sing unto God a new song". But we also understand and value the principle, "Bring out of the treasure house, things new and things old"...which means the songs of previous generations have tremendous value and still speak into our lives. For the most part, worship here at McArthur is contemporary. Primarily, because we feel that to reach this present generation, we need to find a relevant and fresh word from the Lord, in both scripture and in song. McArthur's lively worship experience involves the choir, ministry team, band, keyboards, electronic drums, and guitars. Our commitment is to praise God with our hearts, our voices, our hands, our lips, our talents, and our lives. Come and join with us in using your talents to express our love and praise of Christ. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord."

McArthur's Core Values:

Loving God

Loving People

Growing

Serving

Reaching

Relevance

Excellence

What we believe.

16 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God

These are nonnegotiable tenets of faith that all Assemblies of God churches adhere to. This list is derived from the official Statement of Fundamental Truths. Click links below to see the complete original statement with scriptures.

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WE BELIEVE...The Scriptures are Inspired by God and declare His design and plan for mankind.

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WE BELIEVE...There is only One True God—revealed in three persons...Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (commonly known as the Trinity).

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WE BELIEVE...In the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. As God's son Jesus was both human and divine.

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WE BELIEVE...though originally good, Man Willingly Fell to Sin—ushering evil and death, both physical and spiritual, into the world.

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WE BELIEVE...Every Person Can Have Restored Fellowship with God Through 'Salvation' (accepting Christ's offer of forgiveness for sin). [1 of 4 cardinal doctrines of the A/G]

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WE BELIEVE...and practice two ordinances—(1) Water Baptism by Immersion after repenting of one's sins and receiving Christ's gift of salvation, and (2) Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) as a symbolic remembrance of Christ's suffering and death for our salvation.

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WE BELIEVE...the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a Special Experience Following Salvation that empowers believers for witnessing and effective service, just as it did in New Testament times. [1 of 4 cardinal doctrines of the A/G]

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WE BELIEVE... The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is 'Speaking in Tongues,' as experienced on the Day of Pentecost and referenced throughout Acts and the Epistles.

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WE BELIEVE...Sanctification Initially Occurs at Salvation and is not only a declaration that a believer is holy, but also a progressive lifelong process of separating from evil as believers continually draw closer to God and become more Christlike.

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WE BELIEVE...The Church has a Mission to seek and save all who are lost in sin. We believe 'the Church' is the Body of Christ and consists of the people who, throughout time, have accepted God's offer of redemption (regardless of religious denomination) through the sacrificial death of His son Jesus Christ.

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WE BELIEVE...A Divinely Called and Scripturally Ordained Leadership Ministry Serves the Church. The Bible teaches that each of us under leadership must commit ourselves to reach others for Christ, to worship Him with other believers, and to build up or edify the body of believers—the Church.

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WE BELIEVE...Divine Healing of the Sick is a Privilege for Christians Today and is provided for in Christ's atonement (His sacrificial death on the cross for our sins). [1 of 4 cardinal doctrines of the A/G]

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WE BELIEVE...in The Blessed Hope—When Jesus Raptures His Church Prior to His Return to Earth (the second coming). At this future moment in time all believers who have died will rise from their graves and will meet the Lord in the air, and Christians who are alive will be caught up with them, to be with the Lord forever. [1 of 4 cardinal doctrines of the A/G]

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WE BELIEVE...in The Millennial Reign of Christ when Jesus returns with His saints at His second coming and begins His benevolent rule over earth for 1,000 years. This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel and the establishment of universal peace.

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WE BELIEVE...A Final Judgment Will Take Place for those who have rejected Christ. They will be judged for their sin and consigned to eternal punishment in a punishing lake of fire.

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WE BELIEVE...and look forward to the perfect New Heavens and a New Earth that Christ is preparing for all people, of all time, who have accepted Him. We will live and dwell with Him there forever following His millennial reign on Earth. 'And so shall we forever be with the Lord!'