

Allenwood Church Statement Of Faith

The human phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired nor contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full Gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all the truth in the Bible, only that it covers orthodox fundamental matters.

God

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

The Bible

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

The Human Condition

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

The Work of Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

The Church

We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

Christian Living

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely, and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

Christian living encompasses much more than marriage and sexuality but given the current cultural climate a more detailed statement on these items is necessary. We believe marriage was instituted by God at the creation of Adam and Eve. It is not a human invention, nor is it a recent institution.

Marriage, as God ordained, is a sexually complementary, monogamous, lifetime, covenantal relationship between one man and one woman; and is the foundational institution of family for the flourishing of all people – men, women, children, and all of society. God designed marriage as an exclusive and permanent relationship, one man and one woman, which is only to end by the death of either the man or the woman.

We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography is sinful and offensive to God.

Christ's Return

We believe in the personal, bodily and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

Response and Eternal Destiny

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal

conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

Ordinances

Communion

We believe that the Lord's Supper is symbolic of Christ's broken body and shed blood and that it is to be partaken by individuals having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in remembrance of the substitutionary suffering and death of our Lord on our behalf. Its observance shall be celebrated in anticipation of His soon coming again and shall be preceded by self-examination and repentance. Luke 22:19-20; I Cor. 11:23-30.

Baptism

We believe that God's Word commands every believer to be baptized by immersion, as a public testimony of their identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Baptism is not considered a requirement for salvation. Matt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-9; I Pet. 3:21

Allenwood Church Covenant

We, the baptized believers of Allenwood Church, with our aim to glorify and enjoy the gift of our salvation (I Cor 10:31, Rom 11:36), with God's help, hereby covenant together...

- ❖ We covenant together to serve and pray for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace by walking together in love, in the Spirit, and putting away all bitterness, anger, and injurious speech. (Eph 4:3, Gal 5:16,25, Eph 4:29,31)
- ❖ That we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together so as to glorify God, learn Scripture, pray, and serve together thus being accountable to one another. We will support and treasure the biblical teaching of the whole counsel of God, the observance of baptism, the Lord's supper, and the loving exercise of church discipline. (Heb 10:25, 2 Tim 4:2, Acts 2:38, I Cor 11:26. Matt 18:17, I Cor 5:13)
- ❖ That we will be a part of one another's lives making discipleship and spiritual mentoring a daily goal. We will train our children in the instruction of the Lord seeking to live in a way that shines the light of the gospel of Christ before our family, friends, and neighbors. (Prov 22:6, Eph 6:4, 1 Pet 3:1)
- ❖ That we will bear one another's burdens and sorrows and rejoice at each other's happiness. We will rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep. (Gal 6:2, Rom 12:15) (Col 3:12-13);
- ❖ That we will live boldly yet carefully in the world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts. We will strive to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this present age as we wait for our blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, knowing that our true citizenship is in heaven. (Gal 5:22-24, Titus 2:12, 1 Pet 1:14)...1 Peter 2:11 (1 John 2:15);
- ❖ That we will support the ministry of the church through prayer, commitment to biblical teaching, finances, and other means, of supporting the body. We will contribute cheerfully and generously to the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the advancement of the gospel to our neighbors and the nations. (Matt 28:19, Luke 12:33, 2 Cor 9:7)
- ❖ That we will press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus (Phil 3:14).

Agreed by: _____ Date: _____

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