

ENOLA FIRST CHURCH OF GOD PASTORAL STAFF AGREEMENT

This agreement must be signed by any person in a professionally paid Pastoral Staff position for the Enola First Church of God.

Persons in a Pastoral Staff position at Enola First Church of God include the Lead Pastor or Associate Pastor(s) who have been licensed or ordained by the Eastern Regional Conference of the Churches of God and are professionally paid by the Enola First Church of God to carry out pastoral duties as explained in Article V, Section 2, of the church Constitution.

Special or Ad-Hoc Pastoral Staff persons from outside the Enola First Church of God who have been approved by the Magnifiers Team, the Administrative Board, or a Pastoral Staff member to conduct a one-time worship service or series of services are exempt from signing a Pastoral Staff Agreement.

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The Enola First Church of God believes that to carry on the faith, practice, mission, and purpose of this church; to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ; and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that the Pastor(s) of this church believe in, agree with, and abide by all statements listed in Article III—Statement of Faith, Beliefs, and Conduct—of its Constitution.

A. Statement of Faith: The Churches of God, General Conference, Summary Statement of Faith¹

1. We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. We believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – one in essence and community.
3. We believe in God the Father, the almighty Creator of heaven and earth.
4. We believe that Jesus Christ our Lord is the Word made flesh – fully God and fully man. We believe he was conceived by the Holy Spirit, was born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, was crucified, died and was buried, rose again on the third day, and ascended into heaven.
5. We believe in the divinity of the Holy Spirit, who indwells the believer. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, enables the believer to live a holy life, comforts, teaches, and bestows spiritual gifts.
6. We believe humanity is created in the image of God, has fallen into sin, and can be born again by the Spirit, justified freely by grace, and saved through the atoning work of Jesus Christ alone.
7. We believe that the Church is the body of Christ, the people of God, whose mission is to make disciples of all nations and to be salt and light in the world.
8. We believe baptism, the Lord's supper, and footwashing to be ordinances of the Church.
9. We believe in the return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, everlasting life, and the new heavens and new earth.

I agree with and believe in the above Statement of Faith. Furthermore, I affirm that I will teach all parts of this statement in this church, and I agree not to object to such.

Initials: _____

B. Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:27).

1. We believe that God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man, born as a man, and one woman, born as a woman, and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union (I Corinthians 7:1-3; Romans 1:26-27).
2. Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, The Enola First Church of God will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the Pastors and staff of Enola First Church of God shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the

¹ Taken from p. 6. "We Believe," Copyright 2014 by the Churches of God, General Conference. Printed in the United States of America. Used by permission.

facilities and property of the Enola First Church of God shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.

I agree with, believe in, and will abide by the above Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. Furthermore, I affirm that I will teach and carry these out as official practice in this church and I agree not to object to such.

Initials: _____

C. Statement on Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life (Psalm 139).

I agree with, believe in, and affirm that I will teach according to the above Statement on Sanctity of Human Life, and I agree not to object to such.

Initials: _____

D. Statement on the Document Here We Stand 2016

The Here We Stand document approved by the Churches of God, General Conference in 2016 provides “insight into the CGGC’s biblical understanding of contemporary issues facing the Church and how congregations and individual Christians can respond.”² The Enola First Church of God endorses and officially teaches according to the 2016 Here We Stand document.

I affirm that I have been given either a paper copy of Here We Stand 2016 or electronic access to Here We Stand 2016. I affirm that I will teach according to this document, and I agree not to object to such.

Initials: _____

E. Statement on Discipline³

Any Pastor of this church who exhibits behavior, beliefs, or teachings which are inconsistent with the Church Covenant (Article IV, Section 3) or the Beliefs and Conduct (Article III) or any other activity which is unbecoming of the Pastor shall be confronted according to the guidelines in 1 Timothy 5:19. Any individual bringing a charge(s) against a Pastor must confirm the charge(s) by the testimony of two or three witnesses. The individual bringing the charge(s) and the witnesses must report the situation to one or more Board members. At this point, the Administrative Board as a body, except for the Pastor, shall meet to determine if indeed the charge(s) are valid. If the Board decides the charge(s) are valid, then the Pastor shall be brought before the Board and confronted with the charge(s) (1 Timothy 5:20). Based on the seriousness of the charge(s) and the response of the Pastor, the Board then reserves the right to continue or terminate his/her contract in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Conference contract. If the charge(s) are serious enough that the process of Restoration and Discipline is warranted, the Elders have the duty to carry out this process as outlined in Article IV, Section 8.

I affirm that I understand and will abide by the procedure in the above Statement on Discipline, and I agree not to object to such.

Initials: _____

² Taken from the 2016 version of Here We Stand p. 2.

³ Taken from the Constitution of the Enola First Church of God, Article V, Section 9.

F. Statement on Mediation

The Pastor(s) of the Enola First Church of God agree to submit any legal dispute with this church for mediation before a mutually agreed-upon mediator, or if none can be agreed upon, one selected by Peacemaker Ministries. Lawsuits between believers, or threats of lawsuits between believers, are a matter of grave concern for the church, are contrary to biblical and church teaching, and mediation is an effort to resolve disputes in a biblical fashion. (1 Cor 6: 1-7.) Mediation will be governed by the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation (ICC Rules), unless modified as stipulated by the parties. (Visit: http://www.peacemaker.net/site/c.nuIWL7MOJtE/b.5335917/k.D8A2/Rules_of_Procedure.htm to access the ICC Rules.) In particular, subject to the more detailed provisions of the ICC Rules, mediator(s) will attempt to assist us in reaching a voluntary settlement of any disputes through mediation. The confidentiality of the mediation process will be protected and these matters will not be discussed with people who do not have a necessary interest in them. If settlement can be agreed upon, the conciliators may, at their discretion, issue an advisory opinion. Neither the opinion, nor any communications exchanged in the mediation process, will be admissible for any purpose in any subsequent legal proceeding.

I have read and agree to abide by the Statement on Mediation.

Initials: _____

G. Final Authority for Matters of Faith, Belief, and Conduct:

These statements of faith, belief, and conduct do not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of this church’s faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Administrative Board in accordance with the Churches of God, General Conference, is this church’s final interpretive authority on the Bible’s meaning and application (I Timothy 3:15).

I have read and agree to abide by the Statement on Final Authority for Matters of Faith, Belief, and Conduct.

Initials: _____

I have reviewed the statements above as indicated by my initials after each of them, and I agree to be governed by all the provisions herein. I understand that violation of the above statements constitutes good cause for termination.

Name: _____ Date: _____