

## **Immanuel Baptist Church**

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby state that I am in complete agreement with and believe the following theological beliefs of Immanuel Baptist Church:

#### **Church Covenant**

**The Scriptures** - We believe the Bible and all Scripture is divinely inspired, God-breathed, and is the inerrant word of God that was written by men as God's revelation of Himself to man (2 Timothy 3:15-16).

**God** - We believe there is one and only one living and true God. God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:4-6).

**Man** - We believe that man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. We believe that all have willfully sinned, and as a result, are lost with no hope apart from Jesus Christ (Genesis 1:27, Romans 3:23).

**Salvation** - We believe salvation, which is the forgiveness of sin, is offered to all people who willingly choose to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. One must acknowledge one's sinfulness and believe in Jesus Christ as God's Son (Acts 4:12, Ephesians 2:8-9).

**The Church** - We believe the church is the Body of Christ, which consists of all the redeemed of all ages, tongues, and tribes. We also believe the local church is to be actively taking the gospel of Jesus Christ forward to the ends of the earth (Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 1:22-23).

**Baptism and Lord's Supper** - We believe Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby believers in Jesus Christ, through the bread and the drink, memorialize the death of our Redeemer (Matthew 3:13-17, Matthew 26:26-30, Romans 6:3-5).

**Last Things** - We believe that God, in His own way and His own time, will bring the world to its appropriate end (Revelation 1:18, Revelation 3:11).

**Evangelism** - We believe it is the duty and privilege of every believer of Jesus Christ to take the gospel forward and make disciples of all people through both a verbal witness and a holy lifestyle that is consistent with our faith (Romans 10:13-15, Ephesians 3:1-11, 2 Timothy 4:5, Revelation 22:17).

**Stewardship** - We believe that all we have is God's and that we are to be faithful to God with our time, talents and resources (Malachi 3:8-12, Matthew 6:1-4, 19-21).

#### **Mission Statement**

Leading people to Jesus and nurturing them in their faith.

#### **Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality**

**We believe** that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen 1:26-27.) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

**We believe** that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4.) 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 (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, transgender behavior, rejection of one’s biological sex, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10.)

**We believe** that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Immanuel as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Immanuel in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22.)

**We believe** that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11.)

**We believe** that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture.

### **Statement on the Sanctity of 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. (Ps 139.)

### **Theological Stance**

Immanuel’s Statement of Faith does 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 Immanuel’s doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the congregation is the final interpretive authority on the Bible’s meaning and application.

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Signature

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Date

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