

A Leadership Affirmation **Statement of Faith**

I. Members of St. John who desire to serve a larger role as a leader in St. John ministry are required to:

1. Subscribe to the Core Beliefs of the Christian Faith as derived from the Bible: Salvation, The Ten Commandments, The Lord's Prayer, The Apostle's Creed, Confession and Absolution of Sins, Baptism, and The Lord's Supper (see page 2). Subscription constitutes a promise to uphold these truths in word and deed.
2. Pledge to uphold the ***Constitution*** of St. John Church to ensure our ministries are accomplished in an orderly, God-pleasing manner.
3. Commit to honor the God-given ***Unity*** of St. John congregation in a spirit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. With God's help, and in support of this Unity, I pledge to acknowledge, confess my sins and never advocate a sinful lifestyle.

II. The Ministry Leader providing oversight will collect and record signed Leadership Affirmations for:

1. Voting members of St. John Church.
2. Staff Members.
3. Volunteer Leaders who assume oversight responsibility of a St. John ministry endeavor.
4. Members who serve on a Ministry Team to assist a Staff Leader in setting strategy and accomplishing team goals.
5. Mentors and teachers of adults, young adults and/or children.
6. Small group leaders and assistants to small group leaders.
7. Those recognized as worship leaders (through public prayer and/or speaking) or who might publicly represent St John to the church or the greater community. This includes prayer intercessors, communion servers, and altar team leaders. In general, repetitive service that involves prayer, speaking, informing & directing. This does not include those who are singing, playing an instrument, ushering, or greeting, as long as their service glorifies God and His Word.

III. An annual recommitment to all three expectations (as delineated in section I. above) is the standard for all ministry endeavors.

IV. Exceptions:

1. Staff members whose position does not require doctrinal oversight, may be granted exemption from Item I (1) by the Senior Pastor provided they speak well of St. John congregation and exercise their responsibilities in harmony with this statement of faith.
2. One-time or special event volunteers from the community who serve alongside St. John members may be exempted from signing provided they conduct themselves in a respectful manner to our beliefs and this affirmation. Any public behavior that does not glorify God must be addressed by the staff leader providing oversight.

NAME (Printed): _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

SIGNATURE _____

By checking this box, it constitutes your electronic signature that you will abide by the above statement.

MINISTRY LEADER: Joe Luberda, President

A Leadership Affirmation
Core Beliefs of the Christian Faith

1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God and is the only acceptable source for all doctrinal truth. (By Scripture Alone) *2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:21*
2. All people are sinners and without God's forgiveness are not worthy to inherit eternal life. (By Grace Alone) *Romans 3:23,24; Romans 6:23*
3. If a person is saved, they are saved only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. (By Faith Alone) *Romans 4:2,3*
4. The one true God is triune; three distinct persons in only one God. *Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3,4; 2 Corinthians 13:14*
5. The Apostle's Creed, the Nicene Creed and the Athanasian Creed are faithful explanations of the Biblical teaching of God's triune nature. *Same as #4 references.*
6. The Ten Commandments are the summation of God's moral expectations and as applicable today as they were in the Old Testament. *Matthew 19:17*
7. The Old Testament also contains Ceremonial and Civil Laws which governed only the nation of Israel. New Testament Christians are not bound by those laws. *Colossians 2:16,17*
8. God's moral expectation concerning Christian offerings has always been the tithe before the law was given, when it was given, and in the lives of the faithful afterwards as well. *Hebrews 7:4; Malachi 3:10; Matthew 23:23*
9. Good works are performed by Christians in response to God's love, not in order to achieve standing with God which is given freely by grace through faith. *Ephesians 2:8-10*
10. God has asked all Christians to pray and has promised that the prayers of the redeemed are powerful and effective. *James 5:16*
11. The Lord's Prayer was given by Jesus as an example to teach His followers how to pray and what to pray for. *Luke 11:1ff*
12. Only God can forgive sins but He has graciously given to all Christians the privilege and responsibility of confessing and forgiving the sins of each other. *Matthew 18:18; James 5:16-20*
13. The sins of those who repent must be forgiven but the forgiveness of the unrepentant must be withheld so long as they do not repent. *Matthew 18:15-18; James 5:19,20*
14. Baptism is a means of grace established by God and commanded by Jesus for the purpose of washing away sin and establishing faith by the power of God's word. *Matthew 28:19,20; Acts 2:38,39*
15. Baptism is appropriately provided to all people as commanded by Jesus using His words and simple water as He commanded. *Matthew 28:19,20; Acts 16:33*
16. Baptism does not work the hoped for miracle once saved always saved. Baptized people can later deny the true faith and be lost by their rejection of Jesus. *1 Timothy 1:18-20*
17. The Lord's Supper was instituted and commanded by Jesus the night he was betrayed. *Matthew 26:26-30*
18. In the Lord's Supper Jesus offers forgiveness of sins leading to life and salvation. *Matthew 26:28*
19. In the Lord's Supper Jesus offers all believers His true body and blood through bread and wine. The natural elements are not changed yet the supernatural elements are also present and received by the power of God's word. *1 Corinthians 10:16*
20. Proper reception of the Lord's Supper requires saving faith, repentance, and belief in the miracle of the sacrament as promised in His word. *1 Corinthians 11:26-29*