

Candia Congregational Church

Statement of Faith

At Candia Congregational Church, we believe in:

The Bible

The Bible, consisting of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, as originally written, are the inspired, infallible, and inerrant words and ideas of God. As such, the Scriptures have binding authority over all people in all matters. (Deut. 6:6-9, 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21).

The Trinity

There is one God who has eternally existed in three persons, as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (Deut. 6:24-25; Isa. 48:16; John 1:1-2; Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6)

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man; conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary who was a virgin. Jesus is The Son of God (Matthew 1:18-25, John 1:1, Col. 1:15-20). Jesus lived a life full of temptation, yet He never sinned. (Matt. 4:1-11, Mark 8:31-34, 14:32-39, 2 Cor. 5:21, Heb. 4:15).

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is revealed as the third person of the Trinity. He is The Helper promised by Jesus. He has come to convict the world of sin, dwells within believers to guide them in truth and righteousness, secure believers in God's grace and love, and bless believers with spiritual gifts for the building up of God's Kingdom on Earth. (Matt. 28:18-20, John 14:26, 15:26, Eph. 4:4-6, 1 Cor. 2:10).

Sin

The consequence of sin is what the Bible describes as eternal separation from God – physically and spiritually. Everyone on earth has a problem with sin. We are all sinners by nature because we are born with sin and regularly commit sin. On our own, we are unable to overcome this sinful nature. (Romans 3:23, 5:12-14, 6:23, 2 Corinthians 5:1-?).

Salvation

Jesus's death on the cross is the only acceptable atoning sacrifice for our sins and God's provision for salvation (Hebrews 9:13-15; 1 John 2:2). This provision is a free gift of God's grace that is received by faith when an individual believes in and receives Jesus Christ as their Savior. (John 1:13-14; Eph. 2:8-9).

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The Resurrection

Jesus gave His life as a sacrifice willingly and was crucified, died, was buried, and rose from the dead. (Mark 15:21-16:9) That He ascended into Heaven and all authority in Heaven and Earth has been returned to Him. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:9-12, Acts 2).

The Church

The Church exists in two primary forms. First, as the universal Church, which consists of all who have believed in Jesus Christ throughout time. Second, as the local church which is the gathering of people who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and men and women who are growing in devotion to God's purposes – to become men and women who love God with all their heart, mind, and soul; love their neighbor as themselves, and help others do the same. (1 Cor 12:7, Matt. 22:36-40, Matt. 28:18-20).

Eternity

We believe in the resurrection of both believers and non-believers; for those who are believers, it is a resurrection to life in God's eternal presence. For those who are not believers, it is a resurrection to damnation, and eternal separation from God's presence. (Matt 25:31-46, Rev. 20:11-15).

Statement on the 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 (Ps. 139.)

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.

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- We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, 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 Jesse Remington High School (JRHS) as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to JRHS members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by JRHS in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to 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 nor the doctrines of Jesse Remington High School.

Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct

The 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 Jesse Remington High School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the Candia Congregational Church Board of Elders is Jesse Remington High School's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

Vision Statement for the Candia Congregational Church

We, the Candia Congregational Church, are a Bible believing community, centering on worship, preaching, teaching, and bible studies around the infallible Word of God. We are raising our children and training our members to proclaim salvation through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rose on the third day and sits at the right hand of God. We are seeking to be renewed by the Word and Holy Spirit to speak and live the unchanging love of God in a changing world through evangelism in our families, community and beyond.