

## CHRIST SANCTUARY DECLARATION OF FAITH, DOCTRINE AND TEACHINGS

### *We Believe:*

- 1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.*
- 2. In one GOD existing in 3 persons; namely, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*
- 3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.*
- 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of GOD and that repentance is commanded of GOD for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.*
- 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth, come through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.*
- 6. In defined and continuous sanctification following the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.*
- 7. Holiness to be GOD'S standard of living for His people.*
- 8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.*
- 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and that it is a primary evidence of the baptism in the Holy Ghost.*
- 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*
- 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.*
- 12. In the Lord's Supper and that as often as we partake of the Sacraments we remember our Lord's sacrifice.*
- 13. In the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth for a thousand years.*
- 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous, and eternal punishment for the wicked.*

***We Believe in Bible doctrine:***

- 1. Repentance. Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19*
- 2. Justification. Rom. 5:1; Titus 3:7*
- 3. Regeneration. Titus 3:5*
- 4. New birth. John 3:3; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 3:9*
- 5. Sanctification subsequent to Justification. Rom. 5:2; 1 Cor. 1:30; 1 Thess. 4:3; Heb. 13:12*
- 6. Holiness. Luke 1:75; 1 Thess. 4:7; Heb. 12:14*
- 7. Water baptism. Matt. 28:19; Mark 1:9, 10; John 3:22, 23*
- 8. Baptism in the Holy Ghost subsequent to cleansing; the endowment of power for service. Matt. 3:11; Luke 24:49, 53; Acts 1:4-8*
- 9. The speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance as an initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Ghost. John 15:26; Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:1-7*
- 10. Spiritual gifts. 1 Cor. 12:1, 7, 10, 28, 31; 1 Cor. 14:1*
- 11. Signs following believers. Mark 16:17-20; Rom. 15:18, 19 Hebrews 2:4*
- 12. Fruit of the Spirit. Rom. 6:22; Gal. 5:22, 23; Ephesians 5:9; Philippians 1:11*
- 13. Divine healing provided for all in the atonement. Psalm 103:3; Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matt. 8:17; James 5:14-16; 1 Peter 2:24*
- 14. The Lord's Supper. Luke 22:17-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26*
- 15. Tithing and giving. Genesis 14:18-20; 28:20-22; Malachi 3:10; Luke 11:42; 1 Cor. 9:6-9; 16:2; Hebrews 7:1-21*
- 16. Restitution where possible. Matt. 3:8; Luke 19:8, 9*
- 17. Pre-millennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the dead saints and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. 1 Cor. 15:52; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 2:1. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. Zechariah 14:4; 1 Thess. 4:14; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Jude 14, 15; Rev. 5:10; 19:11-21; 20:4-6*
- 18. Resurrection. John 5:28, 29; Acts 24:15; Rev. 20:5, 6*
- 19. Eternal Life for the righteous. Matt. 25:46; Luke 18:30; John 10:28; Rom. 6:22; 1 John 5:11-13*
- 20. Eternal punishment for the wicked. Matt. 25:41-46; Mark 3:29; 2 Thess. 1:8, 9; Rev. 20:10-15; Rev. 21:8*

***Practical Commitments: We believe that all born again Christians must:***

- 1. Be Spiritual examples to others.*
- 2. Practice Spiritual discipline.*
- 3. Be Loyal to GOD and to His church.*
- 4. Be good stewards of the time, talents and finances that GOD has blessed us with.*
- 5. Practice Moral purity.*
- 6. Glorify GOD in our mortal body.*
- 7. Read GOD'S word and stay away from literature and entertainment that demoralizes ourselves and others. It must be noted that Pornography takes many forms and is a particularly demoralizing enticement that must be avoided at all costs.*
- 8. Use our leisure time to become involved in activities that edify both the individual and the body of Christ.*
- 9. Live in a manner that inspires trust and confidence, bearing the fruit of the Spirit, and seeking to manifest the character of Christ in all our behavior.*
- 10. Live in the Spirit as to manifest the fruits (attitudes and actions) of the Spirit.*
- 11. Be examples of the character of Christ, loving others and forgiving them daily.*
- 12. Accept our Family responsibilities. Honor the sanctity of marriage. Strive to keep divine order in the home. Train up our children in the ways of the Lord.*
- 13. Practice temperance in behavior and abstain from activities and attitudes which are offensive to our fellowman or which will lead to addiction or enslavement.*
- 14. Be temperate and moderate in all our lifestyle.*
- 15. Avoid addiction by TOTALLY abstaining from all alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal and legal drugs that can lead to addiction. Avoid all other activities such as gambling or any other of life's excesses that can lead to addiction..*
- 16. Honor our social obligations to be good citizens.*

## ***Local church structure and operation:***

*1. Christ Sanctuary is a local, singular, non-denominational, congregational, full gospel church. We are NOT independent, but because of our singular status, we become very dependant. Our dependence is on GOD, and each other. We are also dependent on our other brothers and sisters in other fundamental local churches in our community, thus the term, congregational.*

*2. Because there is no higher authority in the chain of structure for Christ Sanctuary than at the local level, GOD himself becomes, and well is, our Chief Authority. Followed by the pastor and his advisory council. The **PASTOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL** will consist of 5 or 7 faithful, tithe paying members chosen by the pastor from the general congregation. They will serve in that capacity with the Pastor, until either the Pastor leaves or until they request release. No one knows the lives of the congregation better than the pastor and thus he has greater insight into who these very important and influential persons should be. This council will make minor to moderate decisions under the direction of the pastor concerning the everyday financial decisions of the church. They are to be an extension of the arm of the general congregation. A quorum, of at least 3 members is necessary to make decisions. Majority rules in all meetings and in the event of an even number in attendance and a tie vote, the pastor will have the tie breaking vote. One council member will be appointed by the pastor as council president. Who will have the ability to hold meetings in the event of the incapacitation of or absence of the pastor. In the event of the loss of the current Pastor, the current advisory council will stay in place until the new Pastor is chosen. At such time, the current council will respectively resign, giving the new Pastor the opportunity to choose his own advisory council. The outgoing council will still be available to be re-instated to their former position.*

*3. **In the event of the loss of the pastor**, it will be the responsibility of this council to find a suitable replacement. This will be done by contacting possible candidates, interviewing them for suitability,*

*CHECKING into their past record as a minister and person and scheduling them to preach for the congregation. This process will be done with MUCH prayer and contemplation as many times as necessary to find a suitable pastor. It is highly suggested that the final 3 candidates be asked back to preach a second time and in a different service than the first. A MAXIMUM of 3 suitable candidates will be presented to the general congregation for a vote in a CALLED MEETING (giving a minimum of 10 days notice, announced from the pulpit and written in the bulletin). The minister receiving the most votes in a secret ballot election consisting of all tithe paying members 18 years and older, will become the new pastor. This is simple majority. The council president will withhold their vote to be used only as a tiebreaker in the event of a tie.*

***4. Pastors** are called of the Lord and should have considerable levity in the matter as to when it is time for him to stop being the pastor. However, in the event of dramatic, destructive and apparently irreversible problems, the council has the right and obligation to intervene. Christians should be able to come to the right decision in this matter. At this initial point, matters should be handled between the pastor and council without involving the general congregation. One of the greatest dangers to a local church is the inability for some to be able to handle disagreements and disputes.*

***5. Church clerk** is a very demanding and important position within any church. The clerk must be a member and tithe payer and have good math skills and must be computer literate. The duties of church clerk must be assisted by a good **finance committee** and dependable ushers. The finance committee and clerk will be chosen by the Pastor and Pastor's advisory council. The finance committee will be made up of no less than 3 and no more than 5 faithful, tithe paying members. It would be advisable to include the ushers who collect the funds in this group and at least 1 of the members from the Pastor's advisory council, who will act as liaison between the finance committee and council.*

***6. Church education** will be the responsibility of the Pastor and **Christian Education director**. The C.E. director will be chosen by the pastor.*

7. *Matters of worship and music will be under the direction of the Pastor.*

8. *Once, during every quarter, the church clerk and finance committee will present to the Pastor a financial report from the previous quarter. A meeting (10 day notice) will be called for all church supporters and members to be apprised of the financial status of the church. Anyone is invited to attend this meeting. Everyone who is a member, and/or faithful attendee, and/or tithe payer, and is 18 years old or older may vote on all issues brought up at these meetings (see qualifications for pastoral vote under “Local church structure and operation # 3”).*

9. *A “year end” meeting will be held in January as a summary of the previous year’s finances.*

10. *Christ Sanctuary will attempt to support **foreign missionaries**. The names and addresses of a selection of foreign missionaries will be made available. It must also be made known that many large denominations are well established and well equipped to do this much better than a local non-denominational church. It may very well be a more effective missionary endeavor for us to become more involved in local missionary work.*

### ***Practical and Social concerns:***

1. *There are many clubs, **social organizations and social activities** that are wholesome and healthy. But the church must be careful to know what these clubs and organizations COMPLETELY believe in before becoming involved. Remember, once we become involved in such activities, we become representatives of them. These social activities should never come before our service to GOD, our church attendance, nor our financial stewardship to GOD.*

2. *We do not have any objections to Christians serving in the **military** or with any federal, state or local **police organization**. But, with doing so, all of the principals of Christianity must be adhered to.*

3. *Christians have an obligation to participate in our nation’s **election process**. Christians are also encouraged to participate in political ventures that are moral in nature, and to assist in the implementation of,*

*or to prevent the implementation of laws that would effect the rights of, or the operation of the local church.*

*4. The local church is to be a spiritual lighthouse in the community and with this comes a need to be a visible presence in the community rather than isolationists.*

## **JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL WORKERS OF ALL MINISTRIES FOR CHRIST SANCTUARY**

***CLERK:*** *The church clerk is the finance recorder and reporter of the church. They must be a born again Christian who is faithful to GOD and His church. The clerk must also be a member of Christ Sanctuary and in good standing. They are to see to the collection, reporting and deposit of all incoming funds for Christ Sanctuary. Also to pay all bills and obligations in a timely manner. The clerk will work closely with the finance committee in meeting the goals established by the body of the church. All records should be kept up-to-date so that at anytime needed they can be reviewed in a legible manner. The clerk will be chosen by the Pastor and his advisory council.*

***CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR:*** *The C.E. Director has the Biblically appointed task of overseeing the total Scriptural Education program of Christ Sanctuary. It is a fact that many Christians have a poor understanding of GOD'S Word. In view of this, the C.E. Director has a mandate from the time we live in, to Propose, Prepare and Implement the very best Christian Education program possible. The C.E. Director should be a good example in faithfulness and dependability for the entire C.E. Department. The C.E. Director will be chosen by the Pastor and his advisory council.*

***CHURCH USHERS AND GREETERS:*** *The church ushers and greeters are usually the first representatives of Christ Sanctuary that visitors will meet. The manner in which a visitor is greeted for the first time makes a lasting impression about our church. EVERY visitor must be WELCOMED, and greeted politely and positively. EVERY visitor*

*must be ASKED to receive a visitor letter and fill out a visitor card. Ushers may ask other polite, adult members to help with greeting. Visitor cards should be retrieved by the same person who gave them. Ushers also have the responsibility of collecting the offering and tithe and help with the counting of those funds. It is advisable that one or more of the ushers also be on the Finance Committee. Ushers are also charged with the task of getting an ACCURATE count of those in attendance. That figure will be written down in the clerks records next to the deposits for that service. Ushers may also be asked to assist with the Lord's Supper. The ushers will be chosen by the Pastor and his advisory council.*

***MINISTER OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC:***

*The two cannot be separated. Music and Worship are a combined effort that help lead the congregation into a spiritual place of honor to GOD and to be receptive to the preached Word. These may be two separate people or may just be one. This is preferably an area of Called Ministry and those who do this should be Called by GOD for this specific task. Of all people in the church, those who stand in front must be faithful to GOD and the church in all ways. The Pastor and his advisory council will PRAYERFULLY choose who will work in this ministry.*

***MINISTER OF YOUTH:*** *Because of the many problems facing young people today, it is highly advisable that this ministry be filled ONLY by someone who has been called by GOD to minister in this area. It is imperative that the minister of youth be highly in touch with the wants, needs and customs of today's youth. It is also imperative that, since today's youth will be tomorrow's church leaders, the minister of youth must be acutely aware of the need to teach Bible doctrine in agreement with the Teachings of Christ Sanctuary. This person must be a member of Christ Sanctuary in good standing. They must be dedicated and faithful in attendance. They must also be an example to the youth in their giving by being faithful in Tithe and Offering. The minister of youth is encouraged to ask for the help of as many adult members needed to properly ensure the safety of our youth. All money raised by*



*the youth must be given to the church clerk for deposit and listed under the heading of YOUTH FUNDS. Any money spent by the youth will come from that fund and must be listed as to where it went. Any funds needed that exceed the money raised by the youth must be asked for 2 weeks in advance and must be approved by the pastor and his advisory council. The pastor and his council will SEEK OUT the VERY BEST person available to minister to our youth.*

**TEACHERS:** *Many of today's children do not have a home life that is conducive to learning about the things of GOD. It must be understood by anyone who teaches children or adults that what we teach them about GOD may be the only Biblical teaching that they will ever receive. We are bound by this burden to be the MOST PREPARED TEACHER that we can be. There are 3 things we must live and breath. PRAYER, PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION will make a difference in whether our students LEARN what we tell them or not. It is hard to find those who will teach. It is even harder to find those who are willing to put forth the effort to teach well. If a person is to teach children how they should live for Christ then the teacher must be a good example in all areas as well. It would be hypocritical to teach children faithfulness to GOD if the teacher is not. It is the job of the C.E. Director (working with the Pastor) to attempt to find Faithful, tithe paying, sincere Christians who will teach with a burden.*

**MUSICIANS:** *Anytime, anyone stands on a platform in front of others, they become living examples as to what a Christian should look like and act like. Those who are "up front" have a tremendous burden and responsibility toward others in the congregation. This is not a show. It is not entertainment. It is not a time nor place to "show off" our talents. It is all about WORSHIPPING GOD and being a Christian example to others. The worship of the congregation is highly effected, motivated or stifled by the APPEARANCE, ATTITUDE and WORSHIP of those on the stage. Musicians must be born again, prayed up, practiced up, and ready to take the congregation higher up. The church stage is not a place to come when you like and do what you want. It is a place where*

*the congregation MUST see the same people, service after service, executing the ministry of the LORD FAITHFULLY. Example is the best teacher and those up front are in a place of example. All church musicians must occasionally ask themselves the question; what kind of example am I? Musicians will be chosen by the Minister of Music and the Pastor together.*

### ***ALL OTHER CHURCH WORKERS:***

*No matter what you do for the LORD it is important. Depending on what ministry you are working in, you may be asked by someone in that department to help. Please don't say no. You are needed. All that is asked of you is that in matters of the Lord's work, be Faithful.*

## **STANDARDS FOR OPERATIONS**

### ***Church Trustees:***

***ONE OF THE*** most important groups in the local church is that of church trustees. The church trustees are the ***LEGAL GUARDIANS*** of the local church. In Christ Sanctuary the number of church trustees should be no less than 3 and no greater than 5. The Pastor should not be included in this group. The trustees will be chosen by the Pastor and his advisory council. The trustees should be chosen from the oldest and most loyal members of the church. To be a church trustee makes a person an open representative in the community of the local church. Thus, anyone considered for this job should be above reproach in their own family and financial life. It would also be advisable, though not necessary if the trustees were chosen from the members of the Pastor's advisory council. The trustees should always be up-to-date on the operation of the church. The trustees along with the Pastor should be the authorized signers on all of the church checking and saving accounts, though this is not absolutely necessary. Once a person is chosen as a trustee and all of the signature cards on all accounts are signed and everything is put into place, it is not an easy task to change all of this. Because of this, plus the fact that if we have chosen wisely

*there is no need of frequent changes. It is then advised that unless there is someone wanting to be released from their position or unless some major problem arises, the membership of the church trustee's should remain unchanged indefinitely.*

### **Church Membership:**

***FROM NEARLY** the time of the beginning of Christ Sanctuary the need for a membership role was recognized. The first members were taken into the church in a great celebration which we called Founder's Day. Nearly 50 people joined Christ Sanctuary that first Founder's Day. From that day forward there have been times set aside to take in new members.*

***MEMBERSHIP** in a local congregation serves several purposes; First, it creates a sense of belonging and instills a feeling of burden to help Christ Sanctuary and the Cause of Christ to be successful. Second, it allows the member to have a say in the operation of the church with their vote. Third, it brings us as members into a close fellowship of comradeship, by having the same goals and aspirations.*

***TO BECOME A MEMBER** of Christ Sanctuary one must; Be a born again Christian, keeping with the standard given in GOD'S Word. Second, they must express their wishes to the Pastor and be willing to begin a 3 month waiting period (which can be negated if they have already been attending that long when the request for membership is made). It is only reasonable to ask a perspective member to wait a least that long for both parties to become more familiar with each other. Third, it is necessary for the person wanting membership to attend several classes, teaching them the beliefs of Christ Sanctuary. It is never advisable for anyone to join any group without having a good knowledge of what that group believes in. Any person old enough to read and understand these teachings and beliefs can become a member.*

***TO MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP** in good standing one must; Be willing to a faithful member. A faithful member is one who attempts to be in as many services as possible. A faithful member is one who daily lifts up their church in prayer. A faithful member is one who carries the*

*message of Christ and the availability of Christ Sanctuary to those outside the church in a positive and uplifting manner. A faithful member is one who supports their church with their financial resources in Tithes and Offerings. It must be noted that even “the poor widow” of Luke 21:1-4 brought and gave her two mites out of her “living money.” We have a right to vote in America because we are citizens and taxpayers. Do these things not also go hand-in-hand with church membership? If a member is inactive in their faithfulness to the local church for more than one year they will be automatically removed from the membership role. The exception to this is illness or a temporary move out of the area, with plans to return later (such as college, training, job, military or family related). As a church we do not desire to be hard or harsh and we will work members on this issue if the member in question will just talk to the Pastor.*

### ***Church Publications and Advertisement:***

*Many churches fail the community that they are in as well as their own attendees and members by not making their services and ministries known. What good is it to have programs and ministries without making them known to others. It is therefore necessary for Christ Sanctuary to consider the need for a “**JOURNALISM COMMITTEE.**” It would be the responsibility of this committee or ministry to NUDGE the pastor, his advisory council, as well as the other church departments to set the dates for planned events a reasonable time in advance. These dates would then become the responsibility of the Journalism Committee to act on in publication and advertisement. All of the MOST ADVANTAGES avenues of advertisement should be considered, such as, MAILINGS, SIGNS, POSTERS, BILLBOARDS, NEWSPAPERS, RADIO AND TV.*

### ***Benevolence and other ministries outside the church:***

*It speaks well of a church not to be self centered and selfish. It has already been stated that our church can probably do better by investing in HOME MISSIONS over foreign ones. There are many “fields, white*

unto harvest” and ready for workers. It is suggested that Christ Sanctuary remember the less fortunate in our own community. Charity, starts at home and there are many times when those in our church and community need assistance.

**A FOOD AND NECESSITY PANTRY** must be established and maintained, to assist anyone who needs help with the basic essentials of life. No one should be turned away or else we violate one of the basic commands given to the church to assist the poor and hungry. The helping of those in need of cash becomes a sticky situation. It is nearly impossible to help everyone with cash. It even becomes a burden financially on the church to help everyone in the local church, every time they need help. Many times special offerings are taken up to help those with cash needs. Often, specific amounts are needed to help with a utility bill, or with other basic needs. It is suggested that Christ Sanctuary adopt the policy of **ONLY** helping those who are regular members and attendees of Christ Sanctuary with cash needs. It is also suggested that we only help any one person, or one family one time over a 1 year period (from time of help to time of help). It is also suggested that in order to raise this help, mention is made of it and the amount needed at the end of any given service and that the offering plates will be made available for anyone who would like to help by putting in their offerings of love. It is also suggested that this policy be made widely known to all of our members and regular attendees. A person will be appointed by the Pastor and his advisory council to be in charge of the **FOOD AND NECESSITY PANTRY**.

**A SHUT-IN MINISTRY** is also a very needed home mission project. There are many people who are permanently disabled either by sickness or age and must stay in a bed or nursing facility 24/7. There is nothing that will destroy the human spirit and the will to live any more than loneliness and the frustrations that accompany it. A search should begin to find some member of our church who would be willing to put together a **REGULAR, WEEKLY MINISTRY** to these precious people. Those who at one time sat in our pews with us and sang songs with us should be put on the top of our list to visit. Please, put the emphasis on quality time rather than quantity time when visiting these shut-ins.

**PRAYER MINISTRY** is many times overlooked as being an important part of a church. But, it is one of the most important ministries that a church can have. **PRAYER CHANGES LIVES** and Christ Sanctuary must find a faithful willing member who will sacrifice their time and effort to promote a weekly time of prayer.

**A TELEPHONE PRAY CHAIN** is also suggested as an extension to the **PRAYER MINISTRY**. Someone must be willing to keep the members of the prayer chain and their phone numbers up to date.

**LADIES FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES** should always be a vital part of any church. Many times, the women of a church are greatly involved in the various ministries of the local church, but never take the time to just fellowship with each other. A Ladies ministry should be started and always kept as an active part of Christ Sanctuary. It should be under the direction of a faithful tithe paying lady member of our church and chosen by the ladies of our church. All moneys raised by this group will be kept in a separate account set up by this group and maintained by this group. Reports may be requested at quarterly meetings.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES** should follow the example set by the Ladies fellowship ministries in structure.

**SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES** is an increasingly needed area in the local church. More and more people are living to be older and in better health today than ever before. As this wonderful transformation takes place it is creating a new area of ministry that must be embraced. Our senior adults are not "disposable" people who have already used up their worth. But, instead they are a wealth of knowledge and wisdom that we can't do without. Hopefully, we will always have a member or couple in our church who will have a burden for this ministry. If it is started, it must be consistent and it must include everyone. Interested parties should make themselves known to the pastor or one of his advisory council members.

**SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES** is a category that is relatively new in the local church. Many times they feel isolated. It is advisable to seek out a single member who will have a burden to bring these people together. Any single member who is interested should see the pastor or a member of his advisory council.