

Terra Ceia Christian School Statement of Faith

Updated February of 2022

Parents and students of Terra Ceia Christian School are asked to certify their agreement with this Statement of Faith. This school unashamedly believes, teaches, and practices a literal interpretation of the Word of God.

We respect your desire to place your child in the best possible learning environment, but if you are not in full agreement with our statement of faith, it will be best for all concerned if you do not enroll your child at our school.

- 1. We believe the Holy Scripture of the Old and New Testament to be the inspired Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and obedience.
- 2. We believe that there is one God, eternally trusted in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- 3. We believe that man, created in the image of God, disobeyed, fell from his original righteousness and became dead in sin.
- 4. We believe that Jesus Christ, the incarnate, sinless Son of God, was crucified and rose, bodily, from the dead so that those who receive Him by faith would have everlasting life.
- 5. We believe that regeneration by the power of the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for the salvation of lost and sinful man, and that His indwelling enables the Christian to live a godly life.
- 6. We believe in the personal return of Christ to judge the living and the dead.
- 7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 8. We believe that God has given parents the responsibility of bringing up their children in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." Since the accomplishment of this objective is a very complex task, parents look to the school and the church for assistance in reaching this goal. We believe that a consistent and meaningful education will result when the home, school, and the church are in agreement on the basic concepts of life. Only when the sum total of all learning is seen in the light of God's Word will the pupil be able to differentiate the truth from error. With the aid of Christian teachers in a Christian environment, we believe these goals will be realized.

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality: We believe that God wonderfully and unalterably 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 biological man and one biological 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/sexual orientation, transgender identity, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, polygamy, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10.)

In order to preserve the function and integrity of TCCS, it is imperative that all persons employed by TCCS in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, and all students 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). While not condoning the sinful behavior described in this statement on marriage, gender, and sexuality, we believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity even if their lifestyle choices are in conflict with God's will (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 beliefs of TCCS.

Statement on the Sacredness 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 from the moment of conception, 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). 11.

This 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 TCCS's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our board of directors is TCCS's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application to the function of our school.