

ENOLA FIRST CHURCH OF GOD SERVICE MINISTRY EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT

This agreement must be signed by any person in a professionally paid Service Ministry position for the Enola First Church of God.

Persons in a Service Ministry position at Enola First Church of God include any persons professionally paid by the Enola First Church of God who are not designated to be Pastoral Staff or Spiritual Ministry Employees and have been given a position title and position job description by the Administrative Board of the Enola First Church of God.

Examples of employees who must sign this agreement include the following position titles: Church Secretary, Administrative Assistant, Director of Technology, Custodian. This list is not an exhaustive list of Service Ministry Employee positions. Service Ministry Employee positions may be created or eliminated by the Administrative Board.

Special or Ad-Hoc Service contractors from outside the Enola First Church of God who have been approved by the Administrative Board to perform a one-time task or job or have a temporary or yearly contractual agreement, such as janitor, lawn care specialist, short-term laborers, etc. are exempt from signing a Service Ministry Employee Agreement.

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The Enola First Church of God believes that to carry on the faith, practice, mission, and purpose of this church; to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ; and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that the Service Ministry Employees of this church believe in, agree with, and abide by all statements listed in Article III—Statement of Faith, Beliefs, and Conduct—of its Constitution.

A. Statement of Faith: The Churches of God, General Conference, Summary Statement of Faith¹

1. We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. We believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – one in essence and community.
3. We believe in God the Father, the almighty Creator of heaven and earth.
4. We believe that Jesus Christ our Lord is the Word made flesh – fully God and fully man. We believe he was conceived by the Holy Spirit, was born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, was crucified, died and was buried, rose again on the third day, and ascended into heaven.
5. We believe in the divinity of the Holy Spirit, who indwells the believer. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, enables the believer to live a holy life, comforts, teaches, and bestows spiritual gifts.
6. We believe humanity is created in the image of God, has fallen into sin, and can be born again by the Spirit, justified freely by grace, and saved through the atoning work of Jesus Christ alone.
7. We believe that the Church is the body of Christ, the people of God, whose mission is to make disciples of all nations and to be salt and light in the world.
8. We believe baptism, the Lord's supper, and footwashing to be ordinances of the Church.
9. We believe in the return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, everlasting life, and the new heavens and new earth.

I affirm that I understand that all parts of this Statement will be taught in this church, and I agree not to object or speak in opposition to these beliefs.

Initials: _____

B. Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:27).

1. We believe that God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man, born as a man, and one woman, born as a woman, and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union (I Corinthians 7:1-3; Romans 1:26-27).

¹ Taken from p. 6. "We Believe," Copyright 2014 by the Churches of God, General Conference. Printed in the United States of America. Used by permission.

2. Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, The Enola First Church of God will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the Pastors and staff of Enola First Church of God shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the facilities and property of the Enola First Church of God shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.

I agree with, believe in, and will abide by the above Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. I affirm that I understand that this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality will be taught and will be the official practice in this church, and I agree not to object or speak in opposition to these beliefs.

Initials: _____

C. Statement on 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 (Psalm 139).

I affirm that I understand that all parts of this Statement on Sanctity of Human Life will be taught in this church, and I agree not to object or speak in opposition to these beliefs.

Initials: _____

D. Statement on Supervision and Discipline²

All Service Ministry Employees shall be supervised by the Lead Pastor and the Administrative Board according to Article VI, Section 2, of the Constitution of the Enola First Church of God. Any Service Ministry Employee of this church who exhibits behavior, beliefs, or teachings which are inconsistent with what he/she agreed to in this document or any other activity which is unbecoming of the Service Ministry Employee shall be confronted according to the guidelines in Matthew 18: 15-16.

1. The Lead Pastor will confront the Service Ministry Employee regarding the situation with the goal of restoring the employee to behavior consistent with what the employee agreed to in this document. The Pastor may take an Elder or another Board Member along with him/her. If the employee corrects his/her behavior, the process is completed. If the employee does not correct his/her behavior, then step 2 must be carried out.
2. The Pastor and Elder with one or two other Board members will confront the offending Service Ministry Employee regarding the situation with the goal of restoring the employee to behavior consistent with what the employee agreed to in this document. If the employee corrects his/her behavior, the process is completed. If the employee does not correct his/her behavior, then step 3 must be carried out.
3. At this point, the Administrative Board as a body, except for the offending Service Ministry

² Taken from the Constitution of the Enola First Church of God, Article V, Section 9 and Article VI, Section 2.

Employee shall meet to determine if indeed the charge(s) are valid. If the Board decides the charge(s) are valid, then the Service Ministry Employee shall be brought before the Board and confronted with the charge(s) (1 Timothy 5:20). Based on the seriousness of the charge(s) and the response of the Service Ministry Employee, the Board then reserves the right to continue or terminate his/her employment.

I affirm that I understand and will abide by the procedure in the above Statement on Supervision and Discipline.

Initials: _____

E. Statement on Mediation

The Service Ministry Employees of the Enola First Church of God agree to submit any legal dispute with this church for mediation before a mutually agreed-upon mediator, or if none can be agreed upon, one selected by Peacemaker Ministries. Lawsuits between believers, or threats of lawsuits between believers, are a matter of grave concern for the church, are contrary to biblical and church teaching, and mediation is an effort to resolve disputes in a biblical fashion. (1 Cor 6: 1-7.) Mediation will be governed by the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation (ICC Rules), unless modified as stipulated by the parties. (Visit: http://www.peacemaker.net/site/c.nuIWL7MOJtE/b.5335917/k.D8A2/Rules_of_Procedure.htm to access the ICC Rules.) In particular, subject to the more detailed provisions of the ICC Rules, mediator(s) will attempt to assist us in reaching a voluntary settlement of any disputes through mediation. The confidentiality of the mediation process will be protected and these matters will not be discussed with people who do not have a necessary interest in them. If settlement can be agreed upon, the conciliators may, at their discretion, issue an advisory opinion. Neither the opinion, nor any communications exchanged in the mediation process, will be admissible for any purpose in any subsequent legal proceeding.

I have read and agree to abide by the Statement on Mediation.

Initials: _____

F. Final Authority for Matters of Faith, Belief, and Conduct:

These statements of faith, belief, and conduct do 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 this church's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Administrative Board in accordance with the Churches of God, General Conference, is this church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application (1 Timothy 3:15).

I have read and agree to abide by the Statement on Final Authority for Matters of Faith, Belief, and Conduct.

Initials: _____

I have reviewed the statements above as indicated by my initials after each of them, and I agree to be governed by all the provisions herein. I understand that failure to do so will be sufficient cause for me to be removed from my Service Ministry Employee position.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Service Ministry Employee position _____