



**SHEBOYGAN  
CHRISTIAN**  
S C H O O L

Scholarship | Discipleship | Citizenship

## **Statement of Foundational Beliefs:**

### **What We Believe, What We Teach & How We Act**

This Statement summarizes the authority from the Bible and from the Reformed Confessions and Catechisms as summaries of what the Bible teaches: the Heidelberg Catechism, Belgic Confession, Canons of Dordt and the Westminster Confession of Faith, and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms which form the Foundational Beliefs and theological basis for this school. All school board members and all faculty members must affirm their support of this Statement and agree that the principles summarized in this Statement be taught by this school. All parents of students enrolled in this school must accept that their children be taught the principles summarized in this Statement.

#### **What We Believe**

1. God has chosen to communicate to us through his written word, the Bible. Its sixty-six books are without error in the original autographs and form our sole source of ultimate truth about faith and life. (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21).
2. God, who is infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, exists in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As Lord of the universe, He has created all things and by his providence continues to govern and sustain all things, visible and invisible. (Matthew 28:18-19, Deuteronomy 6:4, 1 Chronicles 29:12, 2 Chronicles 20:6; Psalm 135:6, Proverbs 19:21, Luke 21:18) .
3. God created Adam and Eve perfect, in his own image, but they fell into sin and under the power of Satan. The entire human race inherited this depravity and merits eternal death. (Genesis 1:27, 3:1-24, Ephesians 2:1-2).
4. In love, God intervened, sending his only Son (John 3:16), Jesus Christ, who was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life (1 John 3:5), obeyed the whole law for us, and suffered the punishment due for our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 3:18). After he was crucified, dead, and buried, Christ rose again and ascended into heaven, where he now rules his Church until he comes again (Ephesians 1:20-23).
5. Everyone who acknowledges their sinfulness, repents, and believes this good news, trusting in Christ alone as Lord and Savior, will be saved (Mark 1:15; Romans 10:9-13; Acts 4:12). One is instantly justified (sins forgiven, declared righteous) by simple faith in Christ and not by good works (Galatians 2:16). Salvation cannot be earned by any human effort or deeds, but is ours by



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grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, the free gift of God (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9).

6. The believer's salvation is forever secured by our Triune God: it is grounded in Christ's righteousness, which is not our own (Philippians 3:9); we are kept by God's power and promise (John 10:28-30, Philippians 1:6); and the Holy Spirit lives within us as the guarantee of our eternal inheritance (2 Corinthians 5:5; Ephesians 1:13). The Spirit's indwelling presence empowers us to worship and serve God (Philippians 2:12-13; 3:3).
7. The believer's primary purpose in life is to glorify God and enjoy Him in everything (1 Corinthians 10:31), serving as His representative on this earth, knowing Christ and making him known. Every believer is called to be on God's mission to the unbelieving world until His return (Colossians 3:23-24, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 28:18-20).

## What We Teach & How We Act

1. **We affirm** that God reveals himself to us through his written word, the Bible. The Bible is God's supernatural revelation to us about both the natural and supernatural world. It gives true answers to all ultimate questions, serving as the prism through which we must study the rich panorama of God's world and human endeavor. **We deny** that the Bible is a culturally conditioned, human book about man's search for God or that its authority is limited by time and place.
2. **We affirm** that God created a perfect cosmos. Even after Adam's fall into sin with its distorting and fragmenting effects, the cosmos continues to radiate the complexity, the order, and mystery of His divine purpose. All reality, therefore, is purposeful, providing the basis for both art and science. **We deny** that we create God out of our imagination, that chance governs our cosmos, or that God created the world through the process of evolution.
3. **We affirm** that God has revealed himself in a meaningful way in both His word and His world. Therefore, we can find meaning in the world and coherence in our lives. Faith and reason are not opposites but are both necessary to understand the world and our lives. **We deny** that science is rational while faith is irrational or that science is objective while faith is subjective.
4. **We affirm** that God continues to sustain His world and His people. God is transcendent but also immanent; His providence controls history. He takes pleasure in the prayers of his children and responds to them in a personal way. **We deny** that the world is a closed system, cut off from God's continuing, sustaining grace or that God is a distant, abstract being who has left us on our own.



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5. **We affirm** that every person is also a fallen sinner, capable of great evil. After we are saved, we begin the process of sanctification but never achieve perfection in this life. As a result, every human being and human institution is deeply flawed by sin. **We deny** that *humans are basically good or a blank slate, that the environment is responsible for evil, or that a utopian world is made possible by appealing to human reason, innate virtue, or state power.*
6. **We affirm** that the Bible teaches that God created human sexuality as a good gift to mankind. God intends sex to be confined exclusively to a one-man/one-woman marriage covenant. Christians may experience desires for premarital sex, same sex attraction, or other lustful desires outside of marriage. Individuals experiencing these desires can live a fulfilling, God Honoring, and chaste Christian life abstaining from acting on these temptations. **We deny** that any sexual behavior outside of this covenantal relationship is in line with God's plan for sex or that these desires can be acted upon within a God-honoring lifestyle.
7. **We affirm** that God created man to live as image bearers as male and female with binary gender identification for his glory, displaying their unique sexuality through their gender type. **We deny** that *gender categories are fluid and subjective.*
8. **We affirm** that Christians are called to serve God as part of the state. All authority in family, church, and state comes from God. We must obey all lawful authority, but must always obey God rather than man, understanding that as members of a democratic state, we are responsible for acts done in our name by the state. **We deny** both *the idea that we are obligated to obey the state in everything and the idea that we have no obligations to the state.*
9. **We affirm** that God has called us to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever, to worship Him in our witness, our work, and in our play. We are called both to witness for him in word and deed and also to work to transform the culture where we have been called to serve. **We deny** that *the sole purpose of our existence is to work and play in this life for our own satisfaction and enjoyment.*

**This Statement of Foundational Beliefs may only be changed by a super majority of 80% of the members of the SCS Board of Trustees.**