

CSTHEA- Statement of Faith and Mission Statement

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

We believe that marriage is a Divine institution set forth by God for the purpose of reflecting His image and His will on Earth and for the production and nurturing of children in a stable, safe environment. Accordingly, marriage can only exist, by definition, between one man and one woman. Any other purported marriage is no marriage at all and is merely a fabrication of modern society against the clear purposes of God.

We believe that sexual activity is forbidden by God outside the confines of a marriage between one man and one woman. Sexual activity, whether homosexual or heterosexual, which takes place outside the confines of a legitimate marriage is inherently sinful. Furthermore, since we believe that a homosexual marriage is a contradiction in terms and is not legitimate, it is impossible for homosexual activity to take place within the confines of marriage. Therefore, homosexual activity is intrinsically disordered, sinful, and against the will of God.

We believe that God created humans as either male or female; there is no third category of being. Terms such as “gender identity,” “gender spectrum,” “nonbinary,” and other similar phrases are contrivances of modern society which do not reflect any accurate or truthful state of being. No man or woman has the ability to change their sex through declaring a new identity, or even through surgery and medical intervention. God creates us all as male or female. We are born with our created bodies, and we can never change the sex with which we were born.

To the extent that individuals suffer from gender dysphoria, we believe that those individuals should be shown compassion in a Christ-like manner. However, we believe affirming a person’s delusions regarding fundamental principles of Creation demonstrates a lack of compassion and is actively cruel. To treat a gender dysphoric person with compassion is to help that person, through prayer and counseling, learn to love the body God created them to have and to feel comfortable in their own sex. Changing a person’s physical appearance, through surgery or other medical intervention, to appear more like the opposite sex is cruel, harmful, sinful, and forbidden by God.

Furthermore, we believe that teaching minors about so-called “gender fluidity” and other similar concepts directly opposes Biblical teaching and is cruel because it is likely to produce great confusion in children which can have profound, life-altering, negative consequences. Attempting to encourage children to undergo any procedure or activity which alters the child’s body to appear like the opposite sex is child abuse and should be strongly opposed.

We believe that God is loving and gracious toward us and we are commanded to be loving and gracious toward others. To love according to God’s will does not mean that we are commanded to always be “nice” or “agreeable.” Loving others in a Godly way requires us to take strong positions against sin in all its forms. We do not, under any circumstances, condone or “affirm” another person’s sinful lifestyle. To affirm a person’s sinful lifestyle is unloving and actively harmful to that person.

We are, however, called to show grace to others since not a single one of us is without sin. Grace allows us to show love and compassion towards those who are living in sin while refusing to condone or allow the sinful activity. Any act of grace or forgiveness extended to anyone, no matter what the person has done, does not operate as an affirmation of the action as morally right.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to partner with parents in the education of children according to a Biblical worldview. We provide the ability for homeschooled children to access activities and opportunities generally associated with public school, such as sports teams and extracurricular activities, according to our Christian faith as expressed in our Statement of Faith.

We strive to instill Biblical values in all children associated with CSTHEA. Education according to Biblical principles is crucial to the moral development of children. We therefore promote policies and practices that encourage individuals to live life according to the Christian faith.

We also seek to provide a model of Christian behavior to the public. We want to preach—through our actions, behavior, policies, and procedures—the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Accordingly, beliefs and behaviors which violate the Christian faith, as expressed in our Statement of Faith, actively work against our mission. We therefore seek to specifically associate with like-minded individuals who value both homeschooling and Christian beliefs and disassociate with those who reject Christianity.

Additionally, since grace and forgiveness are essential aspects of the Christian faith, our goal is to model such virtues in our policies and practices. However, while God calls us to forgive everyone, that does not necessarily mean that we must never cut off ties with a person who is toxic to the nature and mission of our organization. Individuals may be allowed to stay attached to CSTHEA in some circumstances and not in others, depending on the nature of the offending action, whether or not the person is repentant, and the degree to which the action affects the message and mission of CSTHEA.