

Denomination Expectations

This document summarized the characteristics and values the Consistory has determined it would like to see in the denomination to which we belong. Items marked with an * are a high priority.

THEOLOGY

Historic Creeds: Apostle's, Nicene, and Athanasian

Reformed Confession(s): Heidelberg, Belgic, Canons of Dort, Westminster, etc

*Commitment and submission to Biblical authority

*Orthodox Biblical hermeneutic – the Sufficiency of Scripture

*Holds to a gospel that emphasizes the necessity of the cross

Complementarian: offices of minister and elder are for men only

Practices infant baptism

POLITY

Presbyterian form of church government

*Board of Elders has primary leadership responsibility

The local church is the primary ministry agent

Minimal denominational structure

A Book of Church Order

ACCOUNTABILITY

*Commitment to theological integrity

*Procedures for the accountability of: pastors, elders, professors, college instructors, churches

*Zero tolerance for doctrinal heresy

Exercises church discipline

MISSION

Values and emphasizes making disciples who make disciples

Global mission-minded – especially to the unreached

Encourages planting of new local churches

RESOURCES

Theologically-trusted seminaries and colleges

*Theologically-trusted pastors and denominational staff

Theologically-trusted printed, online resources, and events

Has staff people who resource local churches

Has other congregations in Wisconsin

Networks local church resources

CHARACTER

Heart of worship

*Grace-focused

Not legalistic

Unity in essentials, liberty in non-essentials, charity in all things

Challenges local churches to grow in spirit and mission