

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF DARLINGTON DARLINGTON, IN

Our Church:

Our church has been serving the Darlington community for 176 years. Originally known as the Darlington Christian Church, our church merged with Congregational denomination in 1931, which was withdrawn in 1960 due to the liberal direction of the Congregational denomination. Today we are a fully independent, non-denominational church. We conduct monthly business meetings at which members vote with oversight of an official church board. Please see attached affirmation statement signed by all members. Constitution available upon request.

Our Mission Statement:

Ephesians 4:12-13 - ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Qualifications for Pastor:

As with everything we look to the authoritative, inerrant, word of God for our sole direction.

1 Timothy 3:1-7 -*Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. ²Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. ⁵(If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.*

Duties of Pastor:

Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ	Discipleship	Officiating of Weddings and Funerals
Preach Weekly Worship Services	Oversight of Youth Programs	Provide Expository Style Teaching
Visitation of Those in Need	Administer Communion	Oversight of Community and Outreach Efforts
Spiritual Leadership of the Church	Administer Baptisms	Work Alongside Board of Deacons
Direction of the Future of the Church		Spiritual Advisor to Church Board

Our Missions and Ministry:

We seek to love and share Jesus with both our local community and the whole world through:

Sunday School (All Ages)	Annual Harvest Party	Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Ministry
Youth Group	Christmas Caroling/Outreach	Haiti Christian Mission
Weekly Church Wide Bible Study	Town Easter Egg Hunt	God Cares Ministry – Annual Mission Trip
Men's/Women's Fellowship	Vacation Bible School	Women's Resource Center
Wheeler Mission	Isaiah 1:17 House	Christian Youth Camp Sponsorship

Church Attendance Profile:

Currently we're seeing an average attendance of 50-60 on Sunday mornings. Our body consists of around 50% young families under 40 years of age and 50% over 40 years of age. Previously, we've seen attendance fluctuate to as high as 2-3 times this amount. Sunday mornings consist of Sunday School beginning at 9:30 AM with Worship Service following at 10:30 AM.

Community Profile:

Darlington is a small rural town located about 50 miles Northwest of Indianapolis with a population of around 700 people. Sugar Creek borders the town to the North and Rocky Ridge Golf Course is just outside of town to the South. There are (2) other active churches in our town with modest congregations. It's a nice, quiet town ready to be reached for Christ!

Contact:

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*The Congregational Christian Church of Darlington
Affirmation Statement*

In faith and cooperation with the Congregational Christian Church of Darlington I understand that this church body believes:

The Bible, both The Old and The New Testament, is the only true guide in faith and practice. The Old Testament is fulfilled, modified, and explained in The New Testament.

The Bible is the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God. There is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In the Deity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return with power and glory.

All people who in faith accept the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit, and thereby become the children of God.

In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost. people who are saved receive the resurrection of life and people who are lost receive the resurrection of damnation.

In the spiritual unity of believers in Christ.

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.

That God ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between one biological man, one biological woman, and Himself.

*The Congregational Christian Church of Darlington
Affirmation Statement*

(Part 2)

In accordance with the beliefs and practices of the Congregational Christian Church of Darlington, I agree and affirm that:

Disputes are to be worked out between parties without recourse to the courts if at all possible. See, generally, Matthew Chapter 18 and 1 Corinthians Chapter 6.

The Bible, as the inspired and infallible Word of God speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, and that it is the sole and final source of all that moral conduct and decisions.

For interpretive purposes of faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the Pastor and Deacons, working together, are the Congregational Christian Church of Darlington's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

The Congregational Christian Church of Darlington only performs marriages between one biological man and one biological woman.

The Congregational Christian Church of Darlington only recognizes marriages between one biological man and one biological woman as biblically valid marriages.

I also agree that I will, to the best of my ability, follow the conduct and tenets of the Bible and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Congregational Christian Church of Darlington. If I find that I cannot comply with the foregoing statement, I will voluntarily rescind my membership, if applicable, and/or step down from my ministry and/or teaching responsibilities.

Name _____ Date _____