

A Note on Our Approach to Technology

At [Insert Church Name], we believe that technology is a tool that can be used for good works, but it must always be subservient to the Holy Spirit and the truths of Scripture.

We affirm that human beings are uniquely created in the Imago Dei (Image of God), possessing souls, creativity, and moral agency that artificial intelligence does not have. Therefore, we approach AI with a spirit of discernment (1 Thessalonians 5:21), ensuring that its use enhances our ministry connection rather than replacing human relationships, and upholds the dignity and privacy of the flock entrusted to our care.

This policy is intended to help us steward these new tools wisely, ensuring that "all things are done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40).

Document 1: Standard AI Usage & Ethics Policy

- 1 Scope** This policy applies to all paid staff, church officers (Elders/Deacons), and high-level volunteers (e.g., Tech Director) who utilize AI tools on church devices or for church ministry.
- 2 Authorized Tools & Subscriptions** Staff may use free versions of common AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) for basic tasks.
 - Any paid subscriptions to AI services must be approved in advance by the [Executive Pastor / Finance Committee] to ensure stewardship of budget and security vetting.
 - We prefer tools that offer "enterprise privacy" options where our data is not used to train their public models.
- 3 Data Privacy & Confidentiality (Zero Tolerance)** Protecting the privacy of the flock is a sacred trust.
 - **Strict Prohibition:** No Personally Identifiable Information (PII) of congregants, staff, or children may be entered into unsecured AI prompts. This includes prayer lists, counseling notes, giving records, and children's ministry rosters.
 - **Anonymization:** If data must be processed, it must be thoroughly anonymized first (e.g., changing names to "Person A" and removing specific locations).

4 Ministry-Specific Guidelines

- **Preaching/Teaching Team:** AI is a research assistant, not a ghostwriter. Final theological content is the responsibility of the human teacher.
- **Communications/Creative:** AI imagery should be reviewed for theological appropriateness and potential bias. We avoid generating "deepfake" images of real people in our congregation without express permission.
- **Administration:** AI is encouraged for drafting emails, summarizing meetings, and organizing schedules, provided privacy rules are followed.

5 **The "Final Eye" Protocol** No AI-generated text, image, or code goes public (website, social media, Sunday screen, newsletter) without a human staff member reviewing it for accuracy, tone, and theological alignment.

5 **Policy Violations** Misuse of AI tools, particularly regarding data privacy, will be addressed through standard staff disciplinary processes.

Document 2: Staff Training Slide Outline

Staff Lunch & Learn: AI Best Practices

- **The Big Idea:** Technology is a servant, not a master.
- **Defining the Tools:** What is Generative AI? (It predicts text; it doesn't "know" truth).
- **The Red Lines:**
 - No Prayer Requests in ChatGPT.
 - No Kids Ministry Roster data in
 - AI. No Lazy Sermons.
- **Workshop:**
 - **Bad Prompt:** "Write a email to Sarah Jones about her tithe being low." (Privacy violation).
 - **Good Prompt:** "Draft a generic, kind email template about year-end giving statements." (Safe & Helpful).