

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: Simple AI Usage Policy

- 1 Purpose** This policy provides basic guidelines for staff and key volunteers using generative AI tools (like ChatGPT, Claude, Midjourney, etc.) in their ministry work for [Insert Church Name].
- 2 The "Human-in-the-Loop" Rule** AI may be used to brainstorm, draft, or outline content, but no AI-generated content should ever be published, preached, or sent without significant review, editing, and approval by a human leader. The Holy Spirit works through people, not algorithms.
- 3 Protecting Congregant Privacy (Crucial)** We must never enter private, identifiable information about our members into public AI tools.
 - **NEVER put into AI:** Full names attached to prayer requests, counseling details, financial data, or private emails.
 - **ACCEPTABLE:** "Help me rewrite this generic announcement about the potluck."
 - **UNACCEPTABLE:** "Summarize this counseling email from Jane Doe about her marriage."

- 4 Sermon and Teaching Prep** We value the hard work of study and prayer. AI tools may be used for research assistance, summarizing long texts, or generating illustration ideas, but they must not be used to write sermons or Bible studies wholesale. The prophetic voice belongs to the preacher, not the prompt.
- 5 Transparency** If we use AI to generate a significant visual image for a sermon series or social media post, we will aim to be transparent about it if asked, ensuring we do not deceive the congregation about the origin of the work.

Document 2: The "Pastor's Desk" Checklist



Privacy Check:

Did I remove all real names, dates, and private details?



Spiritual Check:

Am I asking it to do my spiritual thinking for me?



Fact Check:

Will I personally verify every fact and scripture reference it gives me?



Love Check:

Does this result honor God and protect His people?