



Declaration of Spiritual Standing For Pastoral Leadership

Dayspring Church of God

Realizing the importance, privilege, and responsibility of serving as a leader of the Dayspring Church of God I declare that . . .

- I believe in the one, true and living God, creator and sustainer of the universe, who is Lord of life, King of glory, and expresses Himself in the three persons of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

_____ I believe in the one true God as revealed through the Trinity.

- I believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is able to lead the lost to salvation, to sustain believers throughout their life on earth, and to accomplish the purposes of God in this world.

_____ I esteem God's Word (the Bible) as the infallible and unchanging Word of Truth.

- I have a personal salvation experience and current relationship with God on the basis of the grace of God through the atoning blood of Jesus apart from any personal works of righteousness, and I believe that Jesus Christ is the only door God provides through which humanity may obtain eternal life.

_____ I was saved on (date) _____. Since that time I have followed the Lord in obedience through baptism and through living a holy life.

- I believe that God calls and places the members within the body of Christ, and I believe that God has called me to leadership in ministry and service within the Dayspring Church of God.

_____ I have felt God's call and have answered a personal call to ministry as a vocation.

- I will hold and proclaim the doctrines and teachings historically upheld by the Dayspring Church, such as salvation by grace alone, the priesthood of all believers, the sanctified life, the unity of all believers, the New Testament pattern for the church, and the present reality of the Kingdom of God.

_____ I have a theological understanding of God that is in harmony with the Church of God, Reformation Movement (Anderson, IN).

- I will strive to live a Christ-like life that will serve as an example to others through righteous relationships and holiness of personal character. And furthermore, I will pledge my faithful participation in and support of the life and labors of the Dayspring Church of God with my time, tithe, and talents.

_____ I live a consistently Christian life and I have a proven history of

- Serving the Church through my Time
- Giving to my local Church my financial support through generous, consistent, and proportionate giving (Tithe)
- Serving the Church through my Talents

- I understand that serving as a leader makes me accountable to the Pastoral Staff of the church, to the Elder Board, and to the Dayspring Church fellowship in all aspects of spiritual service and life. Hebrews 13:17 gives this command: "Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as [those] who must give an account." If ever I become out of fellowship with God or out of harmony with the doctrines and practices of the Church of God, I will willingly submit myself to those in leadership authority over me for the purpose of spiritual discipline, restoration of ministry, or the revocation of my standing as a leader.

_____ I willingly make myself accountable to others and freely submit myself to counsel and correction

- I share and will support the vision of Dayspring Church to be an intentionally ethnically-diverse fellowship reflecting the mosaic of God's kingdom (see below).

_____ I am passionate about reaching and valuing all people no matter their cultural, or their social economic background.

I hereby declare these things on _____(date).

Signed: _____.

VISION OF DAYSPRING

God has called us to be a unique fellowship of believers who desire to experience the pleasure of His presence in the context of the racially reconciled Body of Christ. The heart of God is for believers everywhere to be united in love and concern for one another. Jesus prayed "...may they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (*John 17:23*).

Our purpose of existence is discovered through the unity we experience in Christ ... "to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength...and to love our neighbor as ourselves" (*Matthew 22:36-40*). We are passionate about loving God and each other. We express our love through acts of service to one another and to the community around us.

We use the term "mosaic" to describe what God is making us to be. The word denotes our intentionality to be ethnically inclusive and racially rich. We choose to reflect our community and to target people-groups within our neighborhoods. As the world has come to our region we envision ourselves to be "Dayspring...where the nations worship". In the same way that a mosaic is a beautifully designed piece of art that brings broken pieces together to tell a story and to reflect the artist's intention, so God is creating, through our diverse, crushed, and broken lives, the beautiful story of reconciliation and hope.

We want to experience "heaven on earth":

Revelation 7:9-10 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

Worship Implication: Include a blended international flavor to our services:

- Introduce Ethnically-diverse music, sounds, songs, and readings.
- Invite and use culturally-diverse musicians and worship participants.
- Schedule and implement services that will celebrate diversity.