

BIO & STATEMENT OF FAITH – Scott DeCaro

Scott DeCaro is a Candidate Certified Ready to Receive a Call currently under the care of Monmouth Presbytery. Scott was born and raised in Middlesex County, New Jersey, and graduated from New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) with a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. While attending NJIT, Scott discerned a call from God to become a pastor. He attended New Brunswick Theological Seminary and graduated with a Master of Divinity while working a full-time job. While he has accepted a part-time call to serve Westminster Presbyterian Church in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, Scott continues to work as an operations manager for a logistics company. Scott is a self-described computer geek who enjoys reading and writing in his spare time. Scott has self-published several books which include novels, poetry, and devotionals. Scott currently resides in Easton, Pennsylvania with his wife Kim, their dog and four cats, and last but not least his mother-in-law, Marie.

Statement of Faith

I proclaim faith in the Lord God Almighty, one holy Triune God in three persons: the Creator, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God is our Creator, known first to Israel as Yahweh, and best known to us through Christ. As our Creator, God gave humanity instructions to care for creation and how to live. Instead of living righteously and upholding God's statutes, Israel rebelled and sinned continually. Through God's grace and mercy, God sent Israel prophets to offer guidance and correction, which Israel ignored. God's ultimate attempt to reach out to humanity was to send God's Son, Jesus Christ, fully human yet fully God, as our example, one who reached out to the sick and broken, and in the ultimate sacrifice, faced death on the cross and resurrection for the sins of humanity. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, humanity is offered salvation through faith in Jesus. The Holy Spirit, present through Creation and within the Prophets and God's people, acts within each of us to help us to better know our God and our Savior.

Though humanity is broken and sinful, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are forgiven through grace and made whole, redeemed by God. Our Lord is better made known to us through the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Through Baptism, we are reminded that we belong to God, and that the Holy Spirit is with us and upon us. Through the Lord's Supper, a holy mystery of faith, we are brought into communion with our Lord and with believers in every time and place. Beyond the Sacraments, we are brought closer to our God through the Bible, which brings us contextual stories of faith and guidance for our lives. Through prayer, the

study of Scripture, and faith in our Triune God, we are transformed and made whole.

I believe in the corporate worship of communities of faith known together as the Church. I believe that the church has been called to act in the world as Christ's hands and feet, working toward the Kingdom of God here and now by healing the sick and proclaiming the Gospel. Though fallible and imperfect, it is through the Church that modern Disciples of Christ can best grow in faith and best take action in the world to help bring God's Kingdom to fruition. The church is called to be a bright light in a dark world, ministering to the same people Christ did, and teaching its members to live as Christ lived, all while connecting them to Christ through prayer and worship. All these things the church does not as a replacement for Christ, but until Christ comes again. Together in the church we call for Christ to come again, and with him for God, who is still creating, to bring forth a new heaven and new earth.