

Appendix I – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a seismic advancement in digital technology. Organizations are quickly learning, adapting, and determining how to integrate AI technology into their processes. AI presents new possibilities in productivity and efficiency, as well as new challenges and considerations. This is true of churches and ministries. Rather than wholly embrace or dismiss AI, ABC Church seeks to provide a thoughtful framework to staff and volunteers for the wise and beneficial use of AI tools, guided by biblical awareness and discernment.

Purpose:

The following policy is meant to provide guidelines and best practices for the safe, beneficial, and purposeful use of AI tools by ABC Church staff and volunteers. All departments are accountable to this policy to protect the data and privacy of members, as well as the integrity of ABC Church and her witness in the world.

Presuppositions:

This policy is based on the following presuppositions.

1. **AI is not unbiased.** Because AI tools scan and generate content based on the extensive body of information on the internet, its responses may reflect biases on the internet. AI content should always be reviewed closely for truth.
2. **AI is an evolving technology and not always accurate.** Because AI tools have access to a massive amount of online data, it is continually learning and adapting to new content. It should always be edited for accuracy.
3. **AI is not human.** For all its intelligence and capability, AI is not human. As followers of God's Word, we believe human beings have profound dignity and worth, having been made in the image of God and bestowed with creative power and influence over creation. AI should be viewed as a tool to aid human creativity, but not a replacement of it. Likewise, AI tools should not be viewed as a reliable source for spiritual practice. Though AI may present new ways to research scripture, AI should not be viewed as a replacement for pastoral teaching and shepherding care. God has appointed human beings as shepherds to guide and direct the spiritual practice of His people in godliness and Christ-likeness.
4. **AI is open and early in its protections.** We must be cautious not to share confidential or personal identifiable information (PPI) that would risk a breach of privacy or security.

Permitted Uses:

The following uses are permitted, with the important caveat that **all AI tasks must be scrutinized and edited for accuracy, consistency, and appropriateness.** In no circumstance should an AI tool's response be received and published without review or edit by a staff member. Any use of an AI tool should be determined by the appropriate Department Head.

If an AI tool is used to generate content, attribution must be provided in the form of a footnote, disclaimer, caption, or disclaimer placed where the content is published or made available. An example would read as follows: *“This content was generated in part with the assistance of AI technology. All content has been edited by appropriate personnel for accuracy and integrity.”*

Text content:

AI tools may be used to generate drafts, summaries, and written content to be edited and refined by a staff member. Examples include synthesizing long-form content into short-form content for the website, video clips, social media posts, etc. However, AI text generation should not be a replacement for the careful crafting of responses and messages in the work of ministry. It may be used to support and aid the writing process.

Creative content:

AI tools may be used to generate creative content such as graphic artwork. However, AI content generation should not be a replacement for human art or creative ability. It may be used to support and augment the creative ability of the artist.

Non-permitted Uses:

- **AI should not be used to impersonate someone in voice or likeness.** It is vital that our congregation and community trust content from ABC. In the interest of data security, we would not want to create something false that may become accidentally shared and used nefariously. More importantly, we must preserve the integrity and authenticity of our content, for our witness in the world, as ambassadors of Christ and His Word.
- **AI should not be consulted for doctrine or theology.** The exception is when you are consulting AI tools to determine an individual or organization’s doctrinal position or theological commentary. In this sense, the AI tool is performing a search engine function. It is important to cross reference and evaluate answers for accuracy.
- **AI should not be used to inform spiritual practice.** This is a responsibility specifically given to human beings who have been appointed as pastors, elders, teachers, and mentors. Spiritual growth happens in the context of life-on-life discipleship under the instruction and care of godly men and women. Though technology provides helpful tools for discipleship, it is responsible for discipleship, and should not be relied upon in that capacity. To do so

would be to the detriment of a soul in need of godly wisdom and accountability, which only come through God's Word and God's people.

- **AI should not be used as a replacement for biblical instruction.** We believe in the authority of God's Word and godly leadership. Our pastors and elders are accountable for the spiritual leadership of our church. Content pertaining to doctrine, theology, and spiritual practice should ultimately be driven and directed by church leadership.

Considerations:

The following questions are intended to help individuals evaluate the use of an AI

tool. 1. Does this task align with ABC Church's mission and values?

AI tools should be used in a way that is consistent with our vision and mission to equip people to follow Jesus and flourish in His kingdom. Consider whether an intended task supports this and whether the use of AI tools would help achieve them more effectively.

2. Does this task respect human dignity and privacy?

AI tools should not be used in a way that undermines human dignity or privacy. In addition, we should consider whether a task involves submitting or analyzing personal data, and whether appropriate measures are in place to protect people's privacy and confidentiality.

3. Does this task consider potential biases or discrimination?

AI tools can sometimes perpetuate biases or discrimination, intentionally or unintentionally. Consider whether the task involves making decisions that affect people's lives, and whether steps have been taken to ensure fairness, eliminate bias, and edit for accuracy.

4. Does this task promote responsible stewardship of resources?

AI tools can certainly optimize tasks and ultimately make certain processes more efficient, which can be a result of responsible stewardship. In some cases, the process is a meaningful part of the desired outcome, especially if someone can be developed by the process. Consider whether an AI tool shortcuts a process in such a way that it removes an opportunity to learn or develop in a meaningful way.

6. Does this task help me be more productive, or just work less?

AI tools should be used in a way that expedite certain tasks so that time may be redeemed toward more specialized tasks. Consider whether a task is simply a "fast track" to an outcome, or if frees up time to be invested in specialized, thoughtful work.