

To whom it may concern:

I choose to exercise my right to demand a religious exemption to the requirement that I receive a COVID-19 vaccine. This demand for an exemption is based on my deeply held religious beliefs pursuant to my reliance on teachings in the Holy Bible.

The Bible says, "Therefore, to him that knows to do good, and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James 4:17, NKJV). My personal convictions are inspired by my study and understanding of the Bible, and personally directed by the true and living God. I am personally convicted that I should not receive any of the three COVID-19 vaccines presently available. Where Scripture does not expressly instruct on a particular matter, I believe that I am required to search the Scripture myself for related truths (Romans 15:4) and to seek personal guidance from the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38-39; Romans 8).

Though church doctrine does not impact the personal decision of whether an individual receives most vaccines, the following teaching of the church demonstrates a principled religious basis on which I assert a conscientious religious objection to the current COVID-19 vaccines:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV) says, "...Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God. You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

I am responsible to God for my body—how I treat it, how I use it, how I take care of it, and what I put into it. My body is considered a "sacred temple" that is devoted to God for sacred purposes. I am to honor God with my body. It would be dishonoring to God for me to put something into my body for which I had a conscientious objection. Therefore, on religious grounds I believe I would be violating a sacred trust to honor God with my body if I were to allow the COVID vaccine to be injected into my body.

The Bible states in Romans 12:1 (ESV): "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

I am required by the tenets of my faith to present my body as a holy and acceptable instrument of worship to God. Allowing substances to be introduced into my body that I believe God has directed me not to receive and believe to be displeasing to God would be a violation of my sincerely held religious beliefs.

Signed _____ Date _____

Name (print) _____

Optional Pastoral Signature

I acknowledge that _____ objects to the COVID-19 vaccine on religious grounds.

Signed _____ Date _____

Name (print) _____