

ECO ESSENTIAL TENETS

1. **ECO Essential Tenets**

The official ECO Essential Tenets can be found in its entirety (page 1 to page 9) in the ECO Constitution 2018 hereunder:

- 1.1 https://www.eco-pres.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/eco_constitution_online6.14.19.pdf
- 1.2 See the attachment of the ECO Constitution in pdf form (46 pages)

2. **Infant Baptism**

Please see Essential Tenets

III. Essentials of the Reformed Tradition

C. Covenant life in the church

Page 7, line 9 to line 12

“In the Baptism of infants, we confess our confidence in God’s gracious initiative, that a baby who cannot turn to God is nonetheless claimed as a member of the covenant community, a child of God, cleansed by grace and sealed by the Spirit;”

Journey Evangelical Church Session Resolutions January 28, 2020

i. Out of recognition of the long-standing practice to allow parents to dedicate their babies and young children in worship, we will continue to do so.

i.a. Elders will be responsible to meet with the parents to present the Reformed option of having their child baptized; and to ask them to be clear about their desire to either have their child dedicated or baptized.

i.b. Whether the child is to be dedicated (looking forward to the day they profess their faith with baptism and membership) or baptized (looking forward to the day they profess their faith with membership), the officiant will make it clear which Ordinance or Sacrament is being performed.

ii. Out of recognition that some individuals, having been baptized as infants, might, later in life, desire to have that baptism meaningfully reaffirmed, we will make provisions to do so.

ii.a. The reaffirmation may happen in the context of corporate worship.

ii.b. The reaffirmation would take place in conjunction with a public profession of faith, hopefully with membership.

ii.c. The reaffirmation may have many of the appearances of an adult baptism, including the presence of water for the purpose of immersion and the invocation of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

ii.d. The reaffirmation must be clearly presented, seen and understood as distinct and separate from a (second) baptism.

3. Egalitarian

Please see Essential Tenets
III. Essentials of the Reformed Tradition
D. Faithful stewardship of all of life
Page 7

Please see ECO Polity
1.0603 The Responsibilities of the Session
1.0603 c.
Page 17

4. Predestination

Please see Essential Tenets
III. Essentials of the Reformed Tradition
B. Election for salvation and service
Page 5, 6

Encl: ECO Constitution, Essential Tenets, Polity, and Rules of Discipline 2018 (pdf)