



Park baptist church

14a Crown Road, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2JN

Ministers

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CHURCH MEETING 12.7.17: ATTACHMENT 1

AMENDED DECLARATION OF BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENT

Park Baptist Church Declaration of Baptism and Membership

Through the Spring and Summer of 2017 we invited the Holy Spirit to speak to us regarding the practice of baptism and membership. Having prayed, discussed, reflected and discerned, we make the following declarations:

1. We believe that scripture points to both the early church and Jesus modelling immersion as the normative mode of baptism.
2. We believe that repentance and a personal, public confession of faith is key to baptism; distinguishing believer's baptism from infant baptism.
3. We believe that baptism by immersion is an important symbol of our identifying with Christ; reflecting his death and resurrection and the totality of our faith.
4. We believe a distinction should be made between infant baptism and believer's baptism that is not conducted by immersion.
5. We affirm the historical and continuing identity of Park Baptist Church in its practice of baptism solely by immersion (notwithstanding circumstances where illness or disability prevent it).
6. We affirm the historical and continuing identity of Park Baptist Church in its practice of 'closed membership', requiring all members to have been baptised as believers.
7. We affirm the validity of faith of believers baptised in other denominations where repentance and a personal, public confession of faith has taken place but where immersion may have been absent.