

## PRESS RELEASE

### ARTICLE III of the Constitution of the Tidewater Metro Baptist Ministers' Conference of Virginia

#### Conference Political Policy

***“As a religious organization this Conference shall not endorse political candidates. The rights of individual members shall not be infringed upon in their support of political candidates.”***

In the history of this Conference there has not been a time that this organization has endorsed a political candidate. This statement is not to endorse any candidate. This is to express our sincere displeasure with the policies, practices and personal demeanor of the 45<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.

We believe that any policy that seeks to destroy access to healthcare of millions of Americans is sinful and demonstrates depraved indifference to the least of these. We believe that policies that seek to erode trust in the electoral system and to disenfranchise many, violate this nation's most sacred tenet, that all men are created equal. We believe that policies that skew justice systems in a manner that no longer protect all peoples are evil and threaten this nation's core values. We believe that policies that have result in the needless deaths of hundreds of thousands of Americans demonstrate gross incompetence and render one unable to serve.

We believe that practices that lead to chaos, empowerment of rogue and racist elements, and exacerbation of social and racial tensions, are the real source of anarchy and stoke violence, threatening our core belief that this is one nation, under God. We believe that one's faith is not to be exploited for political expediency and that racial diversity is a strength and should never be weaponized to pit Americans against Americans. We believe that the word of God beckons us to love our neighbors; regardless of race, creed, religion and any practice that denigrates a person represents a violation of the greatest commandment.

We believe that those who hold public office must have a personal demeanor and integrity that inspires trust and confidence. We believe that any behavior, prevarication, manipulation of facts, denigration of women, demeaning of those who are disabled erodes public confidence and repeated instances render one unfit for office.

For these stated reasons and many more the Tidewater Metro Baptist Ministers' Conference of Virginia stands resolutely against the reelection of this current President.