

*In 1986, the Session of Hope adopted a statement on abortion which reads:*



Hope Presbyterian Church believes that human life, from the moment of conception, is a gift from God to be received with gratitude. We accept God's charge to us to be stewards of the gift of life as of all His gifts; to protect, nurture and care for each life God bestows on us as individuals and as a body.

We believe this position to be consistent with Christian traditions, specific Scriptural evidence confirming the sanctity of all life, including the unborn, with the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church and as expressed by John Calvin.

We accept the biblical commission to bear each other's burdens as fulfilling the law of Christ and therefore support efforts to provide care and counsel to any woman of any age experiencing a difficult or unplanned pregnancy. We believe that abortion is the taking of human life, and must be opposed except under extreme circumstances. We support efforts to aid women who wish to keep their babies and efforts to find Christian adoption alternatives for those who are unable to keep their babies.

We encourage the following positive actions:

The formation of study and/or support groups to explore issues and help raise the consciousness of Hope church members on the issue of abortion.

The development and support of ministries to men, women, and children in a crisis pregnancy or post abortion trauma.