**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

As the 2025 General Conference Session approaches, churches, conferences, and unions worldwide are grappling with concerns regarding the basis for certain official statements of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As we approach GC 2025 let’s join our brothers and sisters around the world by Reaffirming our Faith!

Specifically, thousands of members have raised concerns about three statements:

* The **1995 Statement on Climate Change**
* The **2015 Statement on Immunization**
* The **2021 Reaffirmation Statement**

**What This Is Not About**

Before addressing the issue, let’s clarify what this is *not* about. This is *not* a debate on climate change, vaccines, or immunization. We are not taking a position on these topics. Instead, we are examining a fundamental question: **What should be the basis for our church’s official statements and belief positions?**

**Two Key Principles**

1. **The Foundation of Truth**  
   As Bible-believing Seventh-day Adventists, we uphold that *all* church positions and belief statements must be based on inspired sources of truth:
   * The **Bible (Fundamental Belief #1)**
   * The **Spirit of Prophecy (Fundamental Belief #18)**
2. **The Voice of the Church**  
   Official belief statements should be approved by the General Conference in session—the highest decision-making body representing the voice of the global church.

However, the **1995 Climate Change Statement** and the **2015 Immunization Statement** introduce a third authority: *SCIENCE*.

The 2015 Official Statement on Immunization says, *“The Adventist health emphasis is based on biblical revelation, the inspired writing of E.G. White (co-founder of the Church), and on* ***peer-reviewed scientific literature****.”*

The 1995 Official Statement on Climate Change says, *“****Scientists*** *warn that the gradual warming of the atmosphere as a result of human activity will have serious environmental consequences.”*

**The Role and Limits of Science**

Science is a valuable tool for understanding the physical world, but it is inherently **incomplete** and **subject to change** as new discoveries emerge. While scientific research can provide useful insights, it is a human endeavor prone to biases, perverse incentives, and even deception. At best, science is an evolving and fallible source of truth—at worst, it can be misused to promote falsehoods.

**Concerns with These Statements**

1. **Lack of Biblical and Inspired Basis**
   * The **Bible and Ellen White’s writings are silent** on immunization and make it clear that natural disasters are a result of sin, not carbon.
   * These statements **rely on peer-reviewed scientific literature**, an evolving and incomplete source of knowledge rather than the infallible Word of God.
   * Church positions should not be based on fallible human understanding.
2. **Lack of Proper Church Approval**
   * These statements were **produced by GC Administrative Committees (GC ADCOM), not voted on by world delegates at a General Conference Session**.
   * This process **bypassed the voice of the global church**. (“Thus, Church organizations around the world recognize the General Conference in Session as the voice of the Church.” Church Manual, Paragraph 1, Page 30)

**Our Response**

Around the world, hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist churches, along with conference and union executive committees, are voting to **reject these statements**. Local churches in Clark County are taking action as well. Many concerned members of Meadow Glade Seventh-day Adventist Church wish to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters, locally and around the world.

**Why Are We Doing This?**

1. **Faithfulness to God**
   * Our reason and conscience—*informed by the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy*—compel us to speak out.
   * To remain silent would be an act of disobedience to God.
2. **Church Accountability**
   * Church leadership and members are fallible. We often veer off course.
   * *It is the duty of all members* to help correct the course when needed.
3. **Restoring the Church’s Voice**
   * By voting as a congregation, we formally register our concerns.
   * This ensures the issue is documented and acknowledged.
4. **Call for Structural Change**
   * We urge the General Conference Session to **vote on all official statements** that were previously issued by committees alone.
   * This would restore the **voice of the global church** in shaping its positions.
5. **Bringing This to the 2025 GC Session**
   * We seek to place this discussion on the agenda at the upcoming General Conference Session.
6. **Reaffirming Biblical Authority**
   * Official church statements should be based **only** on the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.
   * If inspired sources are **silent** on an issue, the church should either:
     + Remain silent, or
     + Clearly affirm members’ liberty of conscience without taking a stance.

**A Call for Reform, Not Division**

Efforts to correct and reform the church should never be mistaken for rebellion. Those who seek to divide the church sow discord; those who seek to defend it pursue **reformation, repentance, and restoration**. (Fundamental Belief #14)

The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is clear: **to proclaim the Great Commission and the Three Angels’ Messages** so that God can pour out the latter rain upon His remnant people. Our church should not be shaped by culture but should stand firm on biblical truth. If we stray, we must course-correct—so that we can move forward together in faith and mission. (Fundamental Belief #13)

So, please join our fellow church members at the **Church Business Meeting** on February 11, 2025 at 6 pm, and let’s Reaffirm our Faith!

This short video provides an excellent overview of this process: <https://youtu.be/zRRtnxCVLOw?si=Yh9Z3NDsP29kzTn4>

To view the official statements for yourself, go to: <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/>

To view the church manual, go to: <https://www.adventist.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/2022-Seventh-day-Adventist-Church-Manual.pdf>

To learn more about this global movement of Adventist churches, go to: <https://sdapearl.com/>

For a white paper that goes into more detail, go to: <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/b376a085-67d7-415e-82cc-e980a51e4c01/downloads/be9407eb-f46c-4108-9ee4-a2d441f41858/Motion%20to%20Reaffirm%20our%20Faith.pdf?ver=1738354097671>