	ELCA	LC-MS	AALC	AFLC	CLBA	WELS	ELS	CLC
Inspiration of Scripture	There are human errors and contradictions in the Bible	The Bible, as a whole and in all its parts, is the Word of God under all circumstances	The Bible, as a whole and in all its parts, is the Word of God under all circumstances	The Bible, as a whole and in all its parts, is the Word of God under all circumstances	The Bible is the inspired Word of God and free from error	The Bible is the inspired Word of God and free from error	The Bible is the inspired Word of God and free from error	The Bible is the inspired Word of God and free from error
Doctrine of Creation	The account of Genesis is a myth	God created the world in six days	God created the world in six days	God created the world in six days	God created the world in six days	God created the world in six days	God created the world in six days	God created the world in six days
The Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ	The virgin birth is symbolic not literal	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus	Believes in the real virgin birth of Jesus
The Deity of Jesus Christ	The notion of the Son of God becoming man clashes with our modern scientific world view	Jesus is True God	Jesus is True God	Jesus is True God	Jesus is True God	Jesus is True God	Jesus is True God	Jesus is True God
The Atonement for sin	God did not punish Jesus for our sins	Jesus paid for sin through His death	Jesus paid for sin through His death	Jesus paid for sin through His death	Jesus made substitutionary atonement for sin	Jesus made substitutionary atonement for sin	Jesus made substitutionary atonement for sin	Jesus made the full payment for all sin through His death
The Resurrection of Jesus	Jesus' resurrection was a spiritual resurrection, not a physical one	Jesus physically rose from the dead	Jesus physically rose from the dead	Jesus physically rose from the dead	Jesus physically rose from the dead	Jesus physically rose from the dead	Jesus physically rose from the dead	Jesus physically rose from the dead
The Way to Heaven	Followers of other non-Christian religions can also get to heaven	Pluralism is taught by some churches in the LC-MS	Jesus is the only way to heaven	Jesus is the only way to heaven	Only through Jesus	Only through Jesus	Only through Jesus	Jesus is the only way to heaven
Lord's Supper	Practices open communion; grape juice used	Some churches practice open communion	Some churches practice open communion	Allows open communion and the use of grape juice	Practices open communion and the use of grape juice	The Lord's Supper offers forgiveness of sins	The Lord's Supper offers forgiveness of sins	The Lord's Supper offers forgiveness of sins

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Conversion	Allows the idea of free will in conversion	Justification is received only through the faith which the Holy Spirit creates	Justification is received only through the faith which the Holy Spirit creates	Allows the idea of free will in conversion	Wants members to have a personal experience of salvation.	Justification is received only through the faith which the Holy Spirit creates	Justification is received only through the faith which the Holy Spirit creates	Justification is received only through the faith which the Holy Spirit creates
Fellowship	In full fellowship with several Reformed churches; joint agreement with Roman Catholics on justification	Practices fellowship with churches and organizations in which full agreement does not exist	Allows those who support the charismatic movement (Now in fellowship with the LC-MS)	Does not follow God's warning in Romans 16:17-18 about avoiding all those who support false teaching	Does not follow God's warning in Romans 16:17-18 about avoiding all those who support false teaching	Supports other churches through cooperation in fraternal insurance companies	Supports other churches through cooperation in fraternal insurance companies	Limit all forms of religious fellowship to those who are in full agreement in the teachings of Scripture
Millennialism	Allows premillennialism	Amillennial	Amillennial	Allows premillennialism	Jesus will return and will rule on earth for 1000 years	Amillennial	Amillennial	Amillennial
The Role of Women in the church	There is no distinction between men and women in church leadership roles	Women have been given voting rights and positions of authority in many churches	Women have been given voting rights and positions of authority in many churches	Women have been given voting rights and positions of authority in many churches	The office of pastor and elder is filled by men only; women can hold other offices and vote	Women are not called as pastors or have positions where they have authority over men	Women are not called as pastors or have positions where they have authority over men	Women are not called as pastors or have positions where they have authority over men
Church and Ministry	Synod is church; there are many divinely established offices	Synod is not church; church discipline can only be carried out through the congregation	Synod is not church; church discipline can only be carried out through the congregation	Each congregation is "free" from interference by a larger organization	Takes no position on church and ministry; non- liturgical worship	Synod is church; there are many divinely established offices	Synod is church; there are many divinely established offices	Synod is church; there are many divinely established offices
Morality	Homosexuality is an alternative lifestyle, not a sin	Homosexual behavior is intrinsically sinful	Homosexual desires and actions are sinful	Stresses pietism	Homosexuality is a sin	Homosexual desires and actions are sinful	Homosexual desires and actions are sinful	Homosexual desires and actions are sinful
Abortion	Abortion is considered a viable option in certain cases	Willfully aborting a child is a sinful act (except in the case of danger to mother)	Willfully aborting a child is a sinful act (except in the case of danger to mother)	Unborn are persons in the sight of God from conception	Willfully aborting a child is a sinful act (except in the case of danger to mother)	Unborn are persons in the sight of God from conception	Unborn are persons in the sight of God from conception	Unborn are persons in the sight of God from conception

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