## **Joint Statement on Creation / Theistic Evolution**

School of Theology and Christian Ministry and the Department of Biology Olivet Nazarene University

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We fully affirm the biblical doctrine of creation which proclaims God as the sole Creator and sustainer of the world and life. Therefore, we enthusiastically endorse the *Manual* statement of the Church of the Nazarene regarding creation.

We recognize that great emotion and misunderstanding surround the use of the term evolution. We acknowledge that this is intensified by extreme voices from both science and faith communities. It is important for us to strive together in Christ-honoring ways as we explore evolution.

We affirm the value of science as a way of exploring the revelation of the Creator God in nature. We think that the theory of evolution can be seen as a scientific explanation of the diversity of life on earth, rather than as a godless religion that denies God's hand in the processes of creation.

We encourage you to join us on this intellectual journey as we too seek to understand and engage the latest findings of science with our faith, understanding God as Creator.