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# Faith Baptist Church

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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### What is the Meaning of Membership?

Officially becoming a member of a local church is an important step for each believer. The Bible teaches that we are already members “one with the other” because of our spiritual union with Jesus Christ. In this sense, we are already all part of that great body of individuals who have come to salvation through personal faith in God’s Son. It is clear from the New Testament, however, that God’s design is for each Christian to also be an accountable part of an organized, local group of believers who assemble under the oversight of Pastors and deacons. The loving, mutual service which results among the people of God is His means of presenting Christ to the watching world, and is also one essential way for us to show love for God. Being a member means that you are part of our spiritual family and have decided that this is your church home.

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### Why do you need a spiritual family?

#### 1. YOU NEED HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.

*Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. — Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 NLT*

#### 2. YOU NEED A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN USE YOUR GIFTS.

*Do not neglect the gift that is in you . . . —1 Timothy 4:14*  
*God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. —1 Peter 4:10*

#### 3. YOU NEED A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN GROW.

*All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals, and to prayer. —Acts 2:42 NLT*

#### 4. YOU NEED TO BELONG TO SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF.

*For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. —Romans 12:4-5*

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## Am I ready to proceed with membership?

In general, membership at FBC is extended to all believers who:

1. Submit an application and written testimony of one's personal faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour to the Deacons or Pastors.
2. Evidence a burden for those without Jesus Christ as Saviour and desire to be used to share the Gospel.
4. Are in agreement with the Vision, Statement of Faith and the By-Laws of this Church.
5. Have been baptized by immersion as a believer.
6. Demonstrate commitment to each other and to God by giving one's time, talents, and financial support to the ministry of the Church.
7. Be interviewed by 2 Deacons to be examined in the above areas and upon unanimous approval of the Deacons to be received into membership at the next Business Meeting by a majority vote of the current church members.

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## What is expected of members?

We expect members to participate in fulfilling our vision statement, which is to:

“Faith Baptist will be a church of global impact with a multi-generational, multi-cultural membership unified by the Spirit and vibrantly witnessing to a lost world.”

1. **Confess** with your mouth that you have received Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour and that you have eternal life. Romans 10:9, John 1:12, 1 John 5:11-13
2. **Commune** with God daily through scripture reading, prayer & following Christ. Matt. 22:37, Psalm 119:105, John 15:4-6, John 14:23-24, John 12:25-26, Luke 11:2, 1 Thess 5:17
3. **Celebrate** God and hear the preaching of God's Word by participating in a weekly worship service. Psalm 145:7, Heb. 10:25, Acts 2:42
4. **Continue** to grow spiritually by learning God's Word and following God's will. Psalm 145:4, Proverbs 13:20, Rom 12:1-2, Psalm 119:1-4, 2 Cor 5:17
5. **Connect** with others in loving relationships by being part of a small group, class or ministry team. Heb 10:23-25, Num 11:17, Acts 2:42-47, 1 Thess 5:11, Gal 6:2, 1 John 4:11-12
6. **Consecrate** yourself to Christian service with your God-given time, abilities, gifts, and desires. Eph 2:10, Rom 12:4-8, Gal 5:13, 1 Cor 12
7. **Communicate** the love of Christ by word and deed to others. Mt 5:16, Job 11:18, Col 1:10, Mk 1:17, 2 Cor 5:19-21, Acts 26:17-18, Luke 6:27-31
8. **Contribute** your God-given resources by generously and faithfully giving financially to God's work at our church and beyond. 2 Cor 9:7, Prov 3:9-10, Mal 3:8-10, Deut 14:22, Acts 11:29

## **DOCTRINAL STATEMENT - ARTICLES OF FAITH**

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The members of this Church believe and adhere to the statement of faith herein set forth:

### **BIBLE -**

We believe the Bible to be the complete word of God (II Timothy 3:16, Luke 24:27 and II Peter 3:15-16), that the sixty-six books, as originally written, comprising the Old and New Testaments were verbally inspired by the Spirit of God (II Peter 1:20-21) and therefore entirely free from error (Psalm 19:7-8 and Titus 1:1); that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the true basis of Christian union (II Timothy 3:16-17, Deuteronomy 4:2 and Revelation 22:18-19).

### **GOD -**

We believe in one God (Deuteronomy 6:4 and Romans 3:30), Creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal persons (Genesis 1:26 and Isaiah 6:8), The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19, John 1:1 and Acts 5:3-4).

### **CHRIST -**

We believe in the absolute and essential deity of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19 and John 5:18), in His eternal existence with the Father in preincarnate glory, in His virgin birth (Luke 1:34-35), sinless life (II Corinthians 5:21), substitutionary death (I Timothy 2:6 and Romans 3:25), bodily resurrection (Matthew 28:6 and John 20:24-28), triumphant ascension (Ephesians 1:20), mediatorial ministry (I Timothy 2:5), and personal return.

### **THE HOLY SPIRIT-**

We believe in the absolute and essential deity (Matthew 28:19) and personality of the Holy Spirit who convicts of sin, of righteousness and judgment; Who regenerates (John 16:8-9 and Titus 3:5), sanctifies, illuminates and comforts those who believe in Jesus Christ (Galatians 5:22-23, I John 2:27, I John 15:8).

### **SATAN -**

We believe that Satan exists as an evil personality, the origination of sin, the archenemy of God and man (Genesis 3; Isaiah 14:11-20).

### **MAN -**

We believe that man was divinely created in the image of God; that he sinned becoming guilty before God, resulting in total depravity, thereby incurring physical and spiritual death (Genesis 1:26; Genesis 3; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:11-15).

### **SALVATION -**

We believe that salvation is by sovereign, electing grace of God (Ephesians 1, 2:8,9) that by the appointment of the Father (John 3:16), Christ voluntarily suffered a vicarious, expiatory death (Romans 5); that justification is by faith alone in the all sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and that those whom God has effectually called shall be divinely preserved and finally perfected in the image of the Lord (Romans 8).

## **FUTURE THINGS -**

We believe in the personal, bodily, and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the just and the unjust; in the eternal blessedness of the redeemed and in the judgement and eternal conscious punishment of the wicked (Revelation 19, 20).

## **THE LOCAL CHURCH -**

We believe that a Church is a company of immersed believers (Acts 2, 8, 10), called out from the world, separated unto the Lord Jesus, voluntarily associated for the ministry of the Word, the mutual edification of its' members, the propagation of the faith and the observance of the ordinances (Acts 2:42-44). We believe it is a sovereign, independent body, exercising its' own divinely awarded gifts, precepts and privileges under the Lordship of Christ (1 Corinthians 12), the Great Head of the Church. We believe that its' officers are Pastors and Deacons (1 Timothy 3, 1 Peter 5:4, Philippians 1:1).

## **ORDINANCES -**

We believe that there are only two ordinances for the Church regularly observed in the New Testament in the following order:

I. **BAPTISM**, which is the immersion of the believer in water whereby he obeys Christ's command, sets forth his identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Matthew 28:17-20).

II. **THE LORD'S SUPPER**, which is the memorial wherein the believer partakes of the two elements, bread and wine, which symbolize the Lord's body and the shed blood, proclaiming His death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:17-34).

## **THE CHURCH AND STATE -**

We believe in the entire separation of Church and State.

## **RELIGIOUS LIBERTY -**

We believe in religious liberty; that every man has the right to practice and propagate his beliefs

## **THE LORD'S DAY -**

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day and that, in a special sense, it is the divinely appointed day for worship and spiritual exercise.

## **CIVIL GOVERNMENT -**

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honoured and obeyed, except only in the things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the only Lord of the conscience and Prince of the Kings of the earth (Romans 13:1-8).

## **MARRIAGE -**

We believe that marriage is the covenantal union of one man with one woman before a company of witnesses and God. We believe that any union between a man and a woman attested to by a company of witnesses and before God, that ceremony however performed, constitutes marriage, whether Christian or non-Christian. As a church we will do all in our power to strengthen, support and uphold the gift of marriage between one man and one woman in covenantal relationship. (Genesis 1:27, 28; 2; Matthew 5; Matthew 19; 1 Corinthians 7



5. What ministries are you potentially interested in serving at Faith?

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6. Have you been baptized by immersion? NO\_\_\_\_ I'm not sure \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_ If Yes, list

When: \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_

How old were you \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

7. Please describe how you came to a personal commitment to Jesus Christ (attach separate sheet if needed):

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8. Please check one:

\_\_\_\_ 1. I currently hold membership in another church.

\_\_\_\_ 2. I do not currently hold membership in a church, but I have in the past.

\_\_\_\_ 3. I have never held membership in a church. This is the first time I will have publicly  
professed my faith in Jesus Christ.

If you checked #1 or #2 above, please provide the following:

CHURCH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Church Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*(please obtain)*

9. Have you read thoroughly the doctrinal statement? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

10. Are you in sympathy and agreement with our doctrines and are you willing to join  
with us in upholding them? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

**NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

I agree that notice of meetings given by announcement at regular Sunday Church Services or otherwise as provided in the By-Laws of the Church shall be deemed to have been given to me individually and that such notice is as sufficiently given to me as if it were personally delivered to me, and I hereby waive any other form of notice of such meetings.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_

Deacon Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Presented to the church for approval on \_\_\_\_\_