



Membership Commitment



Membership in the local church is often misunderstood based upon an individual's understanding of the word membership. However, membership in the local church is both a biblical and practical reality of Christian discipleship. Believers are not only saved from sin but are also brought into a relationship with God. This relationship is marked by faith in Christ and the sealing of the Holy Spirit who dwells inside the believer. This results in us becoming members of Christ (1 Cor. 6).

Furthermore, God not only joins us together with Himself, but He also joins us to other believers. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 12:27, "Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it." And he also wrote in Romans 12:5 "So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." At the moment of conversion, you join a universal and invisible body of believers. But, you are also meant to join a visible, local body of believers as an expression of that universal membership.

This is why it is important to join a local church through intentional membership. Membership simply lays out the expectations of membership to Christ's body under the authority of a church's leadership (Heb. 13:17).

For this reason, we ask that you read over and agree to the following confession for approval toward membership at Canby Christian Church.

I, _____ commit to the following as a member of the church:

- to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21).
- to pursue the Lord Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship and practice of spiritual disciplines (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Cor. 9:24- 27; Eph. 5:1-21; 1 Thess. 5:12-22).
- to follow the command and example of Jesus by participating in the ordinances prescribed to His Church:
 - by being baptized after my conversion.
 - by regularly remembering and celebrating the person and work of Christ through communion.
 - to regularly participate in the life of Canby Christian Church by attending weekly services, engaging in gospel-centered community, and serving those within and outside of this church(Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25; Titus 3:14).
- to steward the resources God has given me, including time, talents, truth, spiritual gifts and finances. This includes regular financial giving, service and participation in community that is sacrificial, cheerful, and voluntary (Matt. 25:14-30; Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 8-9; 1 Pet. 4:10-11).
- by God's grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1:13-16, 4:1-3).
- to refrain from such activities that the Scriptures would deem foolish, sinful, divisive, and unbecoming of a follower of Christ (Rom. 14:14-23).
- to take seriously the responsibility of Christian freedom, especially actions or situations that could present a stumbling block to another (1 Cor. 8:1-13).
- to submit to the discipline of God through His Holy Spirit by:
- following the biblical procedures for church discipline where sin is evident in another—the hope of such discipline being repentance and restoration.
- receiving righteous and loving discipline when approached biblically by fellow believers (Ps. 141:5; Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5:9-13; Heb. 12:5-11).
- to do the following when I sin:
 - confess my sin to God and to fellow believers.
 - repent and seek help to put my sin to death (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5; James 5:16; 1 John 1:6-10).
 - to submit to the elders and other appointed leaders of the church and diligently strive for unity and peace within the church (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:5).
- to do the following should I leave the church for righteous reasons:
 - to notify the pastors or elders.
 - to seek another church with which I can carry out my biblical responsibilities as a believer.

Name

Signature

Date