

STEPS FOR AFFILIATION IN THE FLD/EFCA

A RESOURCE GUIDE: FOREST LAKES DISTRICT EFCA



Here at the Forest Lakes District, we truly believe that we are **BETTER TOGETHER**. Our mission is to strengthen our member churches so that together we may multiply transformational churches among all people. With this guide we want to extend a warm **THANK YOU** for your interest in joining our family of churches! This guide will provide you an overview of the process for becoming one of our affiliated churches. We look forward to hearing from you!

PHASE 1: Exploration and Confirmation

1. Read content on the theology, culture and offerings of the EFCA and FLD
 - a. READ: [The Benefits of Affiliation](#)
 - b. READ: FLD Website on [Credentialing](#) & Other Ministries
 - c. READ: [The EFCA Statement of Faith](#)
2. Church leader(s) connect with district leaders for Q&A
3. Elder team (board) affirms moving forward
4. Congregational membership connects with district leaders for Q&A
5. Congregation affirms moving forward

PHASE 2: Forest Lakes District Affiliation Steps

1. Amend church constitution as needed to include
 - a. EFCA Statement of Faith
 - b. Membership in the Forest Lakes District of the EFCA
 - c. Dissolution Clause that frees assets in event of closure for future church planting
2. District representative(s) visit(s) the church, congregation and leaders
3. Constitution-bylaws are reviewed by FLD leaders to confirm alignment
4. Final version of governing documents affirmed by elders and members
5. [Affiliation application with the FLD](#) filled out by church pastor and/or elder
6. FLD Board votes to affirm church to district delegates
7. Informational announcement regarding church is shared with the district (2 weeks or more before District Leaders Conference)

8. Church leaders are presented and prayed for during conference followed by a vote to affirm membership
9. Church leadership is notified regarding vote and presented a certificate of membership in the FLD
10. Church and leaders are added to church communication channels of the FLD

PHASE 3: Evangelical Free Church Affiliation Steps

1. Affiliation application with the EFCA is filled out by church pastor and/or elder
2. EFCA National sends the church their 501(C) (3) determination letter under the EFCA
3. Church is added to the communication channels of the EFCA

(Contact lwoodhams@efca.org with any questions specific to phase 3)