

Church Membership Promise

1. I have confessed and repented of my sin and trusted Jesus Christ who bore my sin, as my Lord and Saviour.
2. I accept the Bible as the Word of God, inspired and without error and as my final authority in all matters of Christian faith and living.
3. I trust in the power of the Holy Spirit to guard and guide me in the way of the Lord Jesus.
4. I accept the Statement of Faith as a faithful summary and reflection of Bible's core teaching.
5. I accept and support the requirements of membership set out in the church Constitution and "Guide to Church Life and Practice" and recognize the importance of our voluntary commitment together as a local expression of the Church, the Body and Bride of Christ.
6. Unless I have good reasons I will share in the church's Sunday public worship. I will be present, whenever possible, at the church's meetings for prayer, Bible study, training and business.
7. I will engage in the work of the church according to my God-given opportunities, offering talents, time and money in the Lord's service.
8. Whilst aware of the limitations of my own strength, I will wholeheartedly support the church and its leadership with God's grace and help.

Signed _____



God has placed each part of the body right where he wants it

1 Corinthians 12.18



brighthouse evangelical church



Church Membership

A distinction is maintained between the members (those formally examined and enrolled) and the congregation (the wider gathering of those who come for worship and fellowship). The importance of church membership shall be taught publicly from time to time. However, the initial request for membership will normally come from the individual believer.

Admittance

All applications for membership shall be made to the elders or deacons who shall interview the applicants and forward to a member's meeting the names of those recommended for membership. In the absence of any valid objection the applicants shall be publicly received into membership and their names entered onto the membership roll.

Membership shall be open only to those who have attained the age of 18 and who:

1. profess repentance of sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ;
2. show consistent evidence in their lives that their profession is a real work of God's grace, lovingly and reasonably assessed;
3. assent to the Statement of Faith of the church;
4. accept the responsibilities & discipline of membership (see below).

Whilst new Christians who wish to become members must assent to the Statement of Faith, due allowance will be made for their "spiritual age" and individual ability. Instruction shall be given to the new convert on the responsibilities of church membership and the importance of Christian doctrine as expressed in the Statement of Faith. A deeper understanding of doctrinal and spiritual matters is required of elders and deacons.

Privileges

The privileges of membership include:

- The personal and pastoral care of the elders.
- The love and concern of the fellow members.
- The right to participate and vote in member's meetings.
- The right to nominate elders and deacons.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of membership can be summarised as follows:

- Regular attendance at the Sunday services and at meetings for Bible Study and Prayer.
- Eagerness to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the fellowship refraining from all conduct and conversation which might do harm to the fellowship; doing all possible to promote its spiritual well-being; and seeking at all times to obey our Lord's command to love one another.
- Service in the Lord's work in the local church according to the gifts and talents received.
- Acceptance of the discipline of the church and its elders, and in the absence of any elders, its deacons in accordance with the Word of God.
- Acceptance of the elders and deacons, support of these by prayer, love and practical help where necessary or appropriate.
- Recognition of the need for regular financial support. The New Testament principle is that each one give cheerfully as unto the Lord as He prospers. The precise outworking is between the believer and the Lord.
- A readiness to witness for Christ, endeavouring to live a consistent Christian life in the world so making the gospel of our God and Saviour attractive.

Lapse of membership

If a member has not participated at the Lord's table for a period of six months without good reason, having failed to respond to earnest and patient continued counsel, membership will have deemed to have elapsed.