

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

170 Andrieux St. ✦ PO Box 1250 ✦ Sonoma, CA 95476 ✦ (707) 343-1616

BECOMING A MEMBER

We are glad that you are interested in membership. **Lighthouse Christian Church** is a Fellowship of Committed Christian Friends who consider this local assembly to be their church.

Why become a member? Because we are called not only to believe in Jesus, but to belong to his family. Church membership is an important *group* expression of one's *personal* commitment of walking with the Lord. It is in the fellowship of the local church that we are nurtured, equipped, and released in God's purpose.

Becoming a church member does not secure salvation. The Word of God is clear that one can be saved only by putting one's faith and trust solely in the Lord Jesus as Savior (Romans 10:9-13). Church membership is a recognition by those already saved of the need for frequent assembling of themselves together for worship, for instruction in God's Word, and to constitute a corporate witness.

ADMISSION INTO FELLOWSHIP

Any person who has (1) been **born again** by *publicly professing* their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior, and (2) who manifests the willingness to enter into a committed relationship with the Leadership and brethren of Lighthouse, and (3) to **walk in Christ's will as Lord** may become a member. Here is the process:

A. Attend the **New Member's orientation**. This is a time where you can get to know some of the church leaders and ask questions that you might have. Part of this time will include a pastor outlining what it means to be a church member.

B. Prayerfully review the following (these materials are available through the office):

- 1) **LCC Who We Are** – This slideshow explains our **model; mission; core values; our vision; means; essentials; and approach**
- 2) **Statement of Fundamental Truths** – “Tenets of Faith”; these reflect our *doctrinal* positions
- 3) **Fellowship Expectations** – This tells you who we are, what we do, and why.
- 4) **Our Constitution & Bylaws** – These are our formal legal documents
- 5) **Covenant of Fellowship** – This document should be read, signed, and submitted

C. If you are a new believer in Jesus, and have not done so already, you will be expected to be **baptized with water** as a public confession of your faith, and to partake regularly of the Lord's Supper as the Lord Jesus taught us. (Mat. 28.19; Luke 22.219)

D. Once accepted, the new member will be enrolled as a member of **Lighthouse Christian Church** and will be *acknowledged publicly*, usually in a Sunday morning service.

Those persons in good standing in the church, who desire to withdraw in order to fellowship elsewhere, will, upon request, be given a letter commending them to another Christian Fellowship.

DISMISSAL FROM FELLOWSHIP

Any member who demonstrates they disagree seriously with our doctrine, or the conditions of the covenant of fellowship will be expected to confidentially communicate the same directly to the Pastor. If the matter cannot be resolved, the person will be given the opportunity to amicably remove themselves from the fellowship. Disciplinary action will be pursued only as a final resort, when no other options are available.

Lighthouse Christian Church

COVENANT OF FELLOWSHIP

I have, according to the Scriptures (John 1:12), been **born again** through the Holy Spirit, and have publicly confessed my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, in the Word of God, (Romans 10:8-10) and in Baptism (Romans 6:3-5). In response, I subscribe to the Statement of Doctrine of **Lighthouse Christian Church** and do now enter into covenant with other members of this church as one body in Christ (I Corinthians 12:12). I promise by the aid of my Savior (Philippians 2:13):

1. To **live** lovingly (John 13:34-35) and humbly with my brethren (I Peter 5:6); to pray for them (James 5:16); to separate myself from worldliness and unchristian practices (Titus 2:12);
2. To **pray** (James 1:5-6) for the advancement of my church in knowledge, spirituality, and fruitfulness (John 15:8,16) to uphold its program of worship, training, and teaching; to observe its ordinances (Matthew 28:19-20; I Corinthians 11:24-27) and affirm its doctrines (I Peter 3:16; Jude 3);
3. To **give** financially regularly and cheerfully, as God prospers, for the support of an evangelistic ministry among us (II Corinthians 9:5; I Corinthians 16:2) for the relief of the needy (Mark 14:7; Proverbs 19:17); and the spread of the Gospel over the earth (Matthew 28:19-20);
4. To **serve** faithfully in some activity of the church (James 1:22-24; 2:18); taking care to assume only such duties as can be effectively performed (I Corinthians 4:2); to improve my abilities in service by prayerful study of God's Word (II Tim. 2:15);
5. To **maintain** family worship, encourage family prayer, Bible study and Christian nurture of any under my care (Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 22:6);
6. To endeavor to **win** souls to Christ (James 5:20) by example (Matthew 5:16) and effort (Matthew 28:19-20); and to encourage unchurched believers to attend our worship services.
7. To **follow** the New Testament as my rule of faith and practice (II Timothy 3:16-17).

Print Name (Mr.) (Miss) (Mrs.) (Ms.)

Signature

Birthdate

Phone

Email

Address

City, ST, Zip

Date Saved:

Baptized in Water?

Baptized in the Holy Spirit?

Former Church Affiliation (name & city)

Spouse's Name: (List other family members on back as necessary)

Member as of: