

What is Membership About?

If you love Jesus and have experienced His forgiveness and grace then you are part of His Church - "the Church universal." But that "universal Church" has always been expressed in local gatherings of believers. And while "membership" isn't a word used in the New Testament the concept clearly is there. Jesus' early followers met in local gatherings and "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:42). Being a Jesus follower has always been done in relationship with Him and His people.

Membership in a local church is an intentional step of identification with His people and a natural part of being His disciple. Membership is a formal declaration that we are committing to this local gathering. We are saying, "these are my people - this is my family - and this is our mission." As family we commit ourselves to love and invest in one another. We commit ourselves to working out the Great Commandment (To Love God and To Love Others) and the Great Commission (To Go!) in cooperation, and patience, with each other.

Membership also welcomes the church to join you in your path of discipleship. We commit ourselves to love you but also to be held mutually accountable for our growth in Jesus... because He never called on us to follow Him on our own.

How Do I Become a Member?

The starting point is to talk to one of our pastors or by reviewing the "Our Beliefs" page on our website (www.cornerstoneyxe.ca) and reading the Membership Commitments that you will make (over). If this still seems like the right place and the right people to join with then fill out this Membership Application Form providing the required information and sharing a bit about your life with Jesus on the Faith Story Worksheet and give it to someone on staff or at the Connect Table.

Once we have your application one of our pastors will contact you if you haven't already talked. After that, your application will be shared with our Church Board so that there are others ready to walk alongside you as you continue to grow and serve as a member of Cornerstone Church.

On the Sunday arranged you will be asked to share a bit of your faith story with the church (we will make that as easy as we can for you - doing it live or through pre-recorded video). You will then be formally welcomed into membership and prayed for.

Membership Commitments:

Becoming a member of Cornerstone Church means that:

- We commit to sharing in and striving toward the vision and mission of the Church to love God and to love others and, by doing that, to see the world changed.
- We commit to live in "a manner worthy of the Lord" keeping our lives open to His commandments and walking in obedience to Him.
- We commit to give gladly of our time, gifting and possessions to the Lord through the church. We will be faithful in church attendance and in serving Him as able.
- We commit to live in love and harmony with one another, forgiving, admonishing encouraging and bearing one another's burdens. We will submit to loving oversight and mutual accountability with the members and spiritual leaders of the church.
- We commit to be constant in prayer and to the active in our sharing of Jesus in our world.
- If we move from this area we will, as soon as possible, seek another church of similar faith and practice where we can carry out the spirit of these commitments.

Application for Membership

Please complete the questions below and briefly share your faith story.

Name:	
Birthdate:	
Address:	
City & Postal Code:	
Phone:	
Email:	

- 1. Have you been baptized as a believer (when/where)?
- 2. Are you transferring membership from another church?
- 3. Name & Address of that church

Faith Story Worksheet

As part of the application process, the church Board will review the story of how God has worked in your life. This is a good exercise because, as Christians, our story is one of the best ways to tell others about Jesus. We should always be prepared to tell people about why we love and follow Jesus. Include a brief description of how you came to faith in Christ as well as what God is doing in your life today. Note that there is no "right" way to write a testimony. It's your unique story and only you can tell how God has being active in your life. Either use the space below or attach a copy of your testimony and send it to the church at info@cornerstoneyxe.ca .