



Membership Application

Why become a member?

“You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household . . . ” Ephesians 2:19

1. **Personal sense of belonging.** By choosing to become a member, you are making a conscious choice to identify with and become part of this church family.
2. **Personal voice and vote.** Someone once said that attending a church without becoming a member is like being a spiritual “foster child”. Foster children can participate in a family, but they are never a full participant in the family with all the joys, responsibilities and legal rights. Church members are given a clear voice and vote at all business meetings. Members participate in the decision-making discussions and voting on new pastoral staff, church leadership appointment, new members, church finances and major decisions. Note: Non-members are welcome to freely participate in all congregational meetings, but only members can vote.
3. **Personal significance.** Becoming a member will open up new opportunities for you to serve in significant ministry roles within our church family.
4. **Personal relationships.** By actively identifying with our church, you will enter into new meaningful relationships you would not experience if you stay on the fringe of our church family.
5. **Personal development:** By committing yourself to becoming a member, you will have a greater focus to use and develop your gifts, abilities and serving skills and leadership within our church family.
6. **Personal rewards:** Jesus Christ promises to reward us for our service for others. Your loving service within our church family will have eternal significance in your life and the lives of others. You will also experience the joy and reward of being part of what God is doing with and through our entire church family.
7. **Personal accountability:** By becoming a member of this church, you are committing yourself to a personal path of spiritual growth, Christian maturity and godly service. Through the relationships you choose to build, you will become more accountable to others in your spiritual journey.

Who can become a member?

The membership of IBC is composed of persons who publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord, and hold convictions in harmony with the faith, doctrine and practice of this church.

Eligibility:

1. Is 18 yrs of age or older
2. Professes faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord
3. Submits this church membership application form
4. Has individually discussed his/her confession of Christ and faith convictions with two or more Elders
5. Has formally expressed agreement with the 2000 Baptist Statement of Faith and the Constitution and By-laws of this church. If there are areas of disagreement, these are to be discussed with the Elders.
6. Has received water baptism as a public symbol of union with Christ and His Church.

What is expected of members?

Members should seek to become “fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ” as they...

- Confess with your mouth that you have received Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior and that you have eternal life. Romans 10:9, John 1:12, 1 John 5:11-13
- Commune with God daily through scripture reading, prayer & following Christ. Matt 22:37, Ps 119:105, John 15:4-6, John 14:23-24, John 12:25-26, Luke 11:2, 1 Thes 5:17
- Celebrate God and hear the preaching of God’s Word by participating in weekly worship service. Ps 145:7, Heb 10:25, Acts 2:42
- Continue to grow spiritually by learning God’s word and following God’s will. Ps 145:4, Prov 13:20, Rom 12:1-2, Ps 119:1-4, 2 Cor 5:17
- Connect with others in loving relationships by being part of a small group, class or ministry team. Heb 10: 23-25, Num 11:17, Acts 2:42-47, 1 Thess 5:11, Gal 6:2, 1 John 4:11-12
- Consecrate yourself to Christian service with your God-given time, abilities, gifts, and desires. Eph 2:10, Rom 12:4-8, Gal 5:13, 1 Cor 12
- Communicate the love of Christ by word and deed to others. Mt 5:16, Job 11:18, Col 1:10, Mk 1:17, 2 Cor 5:19-21, Acts 26:17-18, Luke 6:27-31
- Contribute your God-given resources by generously and faithfully giving financially to God’s work at our church and beyond. 2 Cor 9:7, Prov 3:9-10, Mal 3:8-10, Deut 14:22, Acts 11:29.

How do I apply for church membership?

Fill out and return the following information. For married couples, each partner should apply individually:

“I have received Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord, and desire to become an active member and support the ministries of this church. Therefore I hereby apply for membership.”

First & Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Code: _____

E-Mail: _____

Occupation: _____

Marital Status: ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed ☐ Remarried

Previous church affiliation: _____

Family Members	Relationship	Birthdate

Have you been baptized (date)? _____

If not, do you wish to be? Yes / No

What way(s) do you desire to serve within our church family (based on your interests, abilities, gifts, and time)?

I have had access to a copy of the Baptist Faith and Message (2000) (go to: <http://www.ibc-jurbise.org/what-we-believe.html>) and the IBC Constitution and By-laws (request from church office) and am in full agreement with them in both word and spirit. As a member of this church, I will abide by these documents, and seek to fulfill the membership responsibilities to the best of my ability, and will seek to please the Lord above all else.

Signature _____ Date _____

Are you in full agreement with our IBC Membership Covenant? (see attached) _____

Please turn this form (and the previous page with your information) into the church office. Within 1-2 weeks you will be contacted by the Pastor or Elders who will set up an interview to hear your testimony (i.e. personal story) of how you came to put your personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Following the successful completion of this interview you will be recommended for membership at the next congregational meeting.

Personal Testimony of: _____

When and how did you come to know Jesus Christ as your Savior?

Office Use Only

Interview by _____ on ____/____/____

Recommendation:

Congregational Meeting Decision on ____/____/____



IBC Membership Covenant

Having accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized, and being in essential agreement with IBC's Faith Statements, and wanting to enter into partnership with other believers at IBC, I hereby commit myself to God and to the other ministry partners to do the following:

1. I will protect the unity of my church.

- ...by acting in love toward other ministry partners**
- ...by refusing to gossip**
- ...by following the leaders**

So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up. *Romans 14:19*

May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. *Romans 15:5*

You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters.^[a] Love each other deeply with all your heart.^[b] *1 Peter 1:22*

Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. *Ephesians 4:29*

Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit. *Hebrews 13:17*

2. I will share the responsibility of my church.

- ...by praying for its growth**
- ...by sharing my faith with unbelievers**
- ...by warmly welcoming those who visit**

"To the church...we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." 1 Thess. 1:2

"Go out into the country....and urge anyone you find to come in, so that My House will be full." Luke 14:23 LB

"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you;

then God will be glorified.” Romans 15:7 LB

3. I will serve the ministry of my church.

...by discovering my gifts and talents

...by being equipped to serve by its leaders

...by developing a servant’s heart

“Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you...” 1 Peter 4:10 PH

“God gave...some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of ministry, so that the body of Christ may be built up....” Ephesians 4:11-12

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ...who took on the very nature of a servant....” Philippians 2:3,4,7

4. I will support the testimony of my church.

...by attending faithfully

...by living a godly life

...by giving regularly

“Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...but let us encourage one another.” Hebrews 10:25

“But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Philippians 1:27 PH

“Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering.” 1 Corinthians 16:2

“A tenth of all you produce is the Lord’s, and it is holy.” Leviticus 27:30