

Membership Information & Covenant

Purpose of Membership

Christ-Reconciled Church acknowledges the need to recognize its own members in order to implement the principles of discipleship, accountability, discipline, leadership, evangelism, and commitment to the body of Christ, as defined in the New Testament and practiced in the early Christian churches. We see the concept of church membership as being a Biblical idea (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11-12, 27), and as a necessary structure to create a recognized distinction between congregants and the officers of the church—elders and deacons. The roles of members, elders, and deacons are all described in the New Testament as necessary components of the church, and they must work together to accomplish the mission of the church (1 Peter 5:1-5).

Becoming a Member

If you wish to become a member of Christ-Reconciled Church then you need to inform one or more of the elders or deacons by either verbal or written communication. After voicing your interest in membership, one or more of the elders will personally meet with you (perhaps along with other prospective members) in order to discuss the general qualifications, responsibilities, and privileges of membership at Christ-Reconciled Church (see below). Your testimony will be examined in order to ensure, as best as possible, that you meet the qualifications of membership—this process could take time in some occasions. If you are found to meet the basic qualifications of membership then you will be asked to formally enter into a covenant with this congregation.

Qualifications for Membership

The membership of this church shall consist of persons who;

- Profess faith in Jesus Christ as their savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-10)
- Are baptized by immersion into water (Romans 6:1-5)
- Give evidence of a life regenerated by the Holy Spirit (John 15:5, Galatians 5:22-24); and
- Enter into covenant with this congregation as a local expression of the larger body of Christ.

Church Statement of Faith

We are Evangelicals and in agreement with the doctrinal statement of the National Association of Evangelicals:

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
- We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
- We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
- We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Membership Covenant

The covenant between this church and its members is established in order that each member may understand and agree to uphold their Biblical role as an individual in the body of Christ.

I, _____, having already met the other qualifications of church membership listed in the bylaws of Christ-Reconciled Church (Article IV, Section 2), understand and affirm the church's statement of faith, and agree to: submit to the authority of the elders, which God has put in place to guide and care for the church, of which Christ is the head (1 Peter 5:5); live and hold other members accountable to living lives worthy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:24, Philippians 1:27-30); humbly enact and/or receive church discipline as outlined in Matthew 18:15-20 when necessary; give generously to the church and its members—of spiritual gifts, possessions, money, wisdom, and labor—in response to the life Christ has given them (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, Acts 4:32); and attend weekly meetings as reasonably able (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Member Signature

Elder Signature

Date

Date