

BECOMING A MEMBER

Church on the Hill Membership Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in Step One of the Grow Track, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with Church on the Hill. In doing so, I make the following commitment to God and my fellow church members:

1. I will protect the unity of my church by:

- Acting in love toward other members.
- Refusing to gossip.
- Following the leaders.

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.”

ROMANS 14:19 PH

“Live in complete harmony with each other—each with the attitude of Christ toward each other.”

ROMANS 15:5 TLB

“Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.”

1 PETER 1:22 GNT

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs.”

EPHESIANS 4:29

“Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.”

HEBREWS 13:17

2. I will share the responsibility of my church by:

Praying for its growth and health.
Inviting the unchurched to attend.
Warmly welcoming those who visit.

"To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers."

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-2

"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full."

LUKE 14:23 TLB

"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified."

ROMANS 15:7 TLB

3. I will serve the ministry of my church by:

Discovering my gifts and talents.
Using my God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.
Developing a servant's heart.

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you."

1 PETER 4:10 PH

"So Christ Himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

EPHESIANS 4:11-12

"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus... taking the form of a bondservant."

PHILIPPIANS 2:4-5, 7 NKJV

4. I will support the testimony of my church by:

Attending church and Small Groups faithfully.

Living a Godly life.

Giving regularly.

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

ACTS 2:42

“Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another.”

HEBREWS 10:25 NLT

“But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ.”

PHILIPPIANS 1:27 PH

Our full Statement of Faith can be found in the Appendix of this booklet, or online at coth.us/about-us/

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Holy Bible

The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible, and inerrant.

2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26

Trinity

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and co-eternal.

1 John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind, and thus atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory.

John 1:1,14, 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 2:5

Virgin Birth

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God.

Matthew 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27-35

Redemption

Man was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression he fell; his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Genesis 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21

Regeneration

For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

John 6:44, 65; Matthew 19:28; Titus 3:5

Salvation

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts.

Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22

Repentance

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation.

Acts 2:21, 3:19; 1 John 1:9

Sanctification

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.

1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, Romans 8:29, 12:1-2, Hebrews 2:11

Jesus' Blood

The Blood that Jesus Christ shed on the Cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100% sufficient to cleanse mankind of all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death.

1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5, 5:9; Colossians 1:20; Romans 3:10-12, 23, 5:9; John 1:29

Jesus Christ Indwells All Believers

Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to Him thus making Jesus the Lord of their life as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried, and rose again from the dead.

John 1:12; John 14:17, 23; John 15:4; Romans 8:11; Revelation 3:20

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Given at Pentecost, it is the promise of the Father, sent by Jesus after His Ascension, to empower the Church to preach the Gospel throughout the whole earth.

Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection, and confirm the power of the Gospel. The Bible's lists of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of Biblical parameters.

Hebrews 2:4; Romans 1:11, 12 :4-8; Ephesians 4:16; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6-7; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; 1 Peter 4:10

The Church

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person who is born of the Spirit is an integral part of the Church as a member of the body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23

Sacraments

Water Baptism: Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48

The Lord's Supper: A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross.

Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25

Marriage: We believe marriage is defined in the Bible as a covenant, a sacred bond between one man and one woman, instituted by and publicly entered into before God.

Matthew 19:4-6

Healing of the Sick

Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign, which is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit.

Psalms 103:2-3; Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 8:6-7; James 5:14-16; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28; Romans 11:29

God's Will for Provision

It is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy, and successful in all areas of life. Because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on Earth, but that fact should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to better serve others.

- **Spiritual**
John 3:3-11; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10
- **Mental and Emotional**
2 Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3
- **Physical**
Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24
- **Financial**
Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Philippians 4:19

Resurrection

Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. In addition, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected; those that are saved to the resurrection of life and those that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation.

Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19-21, 20:26-28, 21:4; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:42, 44; Philippians 1:21-23, 3:21

Heaven

Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34; John 17:24; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16; 1 Peter 1:4

Hell

After living one life on earth, the unbelievers will be judged by God and sent to Hell where they will be eternally tormented with the Devil and the Fallen Angels.

Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8

Second Coming

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His Kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures.

Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7