

## Membership Application

Faith Baptist Church

Cheboygan, Michigan

Please fill out this form, sign, date and give it to the pastor or a deacon.

If you are under 18 years of age, you must have your parents written consent for membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone/Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Marital status circle one:      SINGLE      MARRIED      WIDOWED

Please answer the following questions:

1. When do you think you became a Christian?
2. In a few sentences tell about your conversion to Christ: *please use a separate piece of paper.*
3. Have you been baptized, (circle one) YES NO

If you circled yes, was it before or after you became a Christian?

When, where and who baptized you? (If you don't remember the exact date or who, that's ok. There are cases where we may ask you to be re-baptized.)

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4. Are you presently a member at another church? (circle one) YES NO

If yes, what church is it? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why do you want to be a member of Faith Baptist Church?

Membership in the church requires that you agree to the Membership Covenant, before you can be a member the following things must happen.

- 1) Interview with the Pastor and two deacons.
- 2) You need to review the Member Covenant and the Statement of Faith, and express any disagreements you may have.
- 3) If you are willing to agree with the covenant and sign it, then you will be recommended to the Church membership by the Board as a candidate for membership. Two weeks before you are voted on, you will need to write out a brief testimony of how you became a Christian. A deacon or the pastor will help you to write this if you need assistance. This will be posted in the foyer for people to read over.
- 4) In a regular business meeting the Church will vote on receiving you into the membership, a simple majority of the members present will make you a member!

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Faith Family Covenant**

Having been led by the Holy Spirit to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, on the public confession of faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, I do now, in the presence of God and this Christian Family, solemnly and joyfully enter into a covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

I purpose, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church in knowledge and holiness; to attend its services regularly; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to give faithfully of time and talent in its activities; to contribute cheerfully and regularly, as God leads, to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel.

I also purpose to train my children according to the Word of God; to seek the salvation of family members and acquaintances; to walk carefully in the world; to be just in my dealings, faithful in engagements, and exemplary in conduct; to be zealous in my efforts to advance the cause of Christ, our Savior; and to give Him preeminence in all things.

I further purpose to watch over one another in familial love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling, speech, and action; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation.

I moreover purpose that if I remove myself from this Church that I will initiate an exit interview with the Pastor or a Deacon in love and respect for the betterment of Christ's Church. I also purpose to unite myself with another Bible believing Church as soon as possible. Being in agreement with the Confession of Faith and By-Laws I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Faith Baptist Church Family. In doing so, I commit to God and to the other members my obedience and love.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ (Sign) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Summarized Statement of Faith

Faith Baptist has been and is trying to follow the Bible more perfectly all the time, therefore, the statement of faith and this summarization is *not* the *final word* on matter, Scripture is.

**Scripture/The Bible:** We teach that the bible is inspired by God and has been produced by humans who were under the influence or direction of the Holy Spirit when they wrote the scriptures, therefore the Bible is the Word of God.

**God:** We teach there is only one God. This God has always existed and is a trinity of beings who are the one God. These three are *the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit*. Each of these persons are eternal and equal in power. All three are involved in salvation.

**Satan/Devil:** We teach that Satan is real. He began as an angel serving God in heaven, but he rebelled against God and became unholy. He now opposes God in every way and he opposes Christians.

**Creation:** We teach that the origin of all begins with God as it says in Genesis chapter 1 and 2. Human beings are created in the image of God and have individual personal value because of it.

**The Fall of Man/Why Humanity is so bad:** God made Adam and Eve, they were innocent and happy. God gave them a single law and they broke that law. The consequences of that disobedience is that their nature was corrupted causing them to disobey God more and more. This corruption has been passed to their offspring and is why the world is the way it is today.

**The Virgin Birth:** We teach that Jesus was conceived in a supernatural manner. Mary was pregnant without the aid or use of a man. Therefore Jesus was born without the corruption of the sin nature that all other humans have.

**The Atonement For Sin:** We teach that Jesus shed his blood as an atoning sacrifice for sin. It is only through Jesus that the wrath of God is appeased. Jesus died as our substitute, in our place on the cross, and on the third day he rose bodily from the dead.

**Who can be saved:** We teach that the only thing preventing a person from putting their faith in Jesus Christ is their own sinfulness, their love of sinfulness, and their rejection of the gospel.

**Being Born Again:** We teach that being saved requires being born again, the new birth first results in a change of mind about sin and God; second it causes us to believe in Jesus as our savior.

**Justification:** We teach when a person puts their faith in Jesus they are declared just by God. This means that all traces of a person's sinfulness is permanently erased from their record.

**Sanctification:** We teach that people who are born again begin a new life of being indwelt or filled with the Holy Spirit. This new life we live is a transformative journey in which we are transformed by the Holy Spirit into people more and more like Jesus our Lord. This transformation will always be in process until we are finally in heaven, only then will we be like Jesus.

**The Church:** We teach that Jesus Christ is the head of the universal church and this church is composed of all people who have been born again. We teach that a visible or local church is composed of people who have been: born again, baptized by immersion, and voluntarily united in fellowship with other people who have been born again and baptized. We further teach that no external power has control over a local/visible church.

**Communion and Baptism:** We teach that Jesus left the church only two ordinances or sacraments: 1- Communion, which is a memorial meal where we eat and drink together as brothers and sisters in Christ to remember the death of Jesus. 2 - Baptism, is the rite by which a person identifies with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus by being immersed in water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Security of the Believer:** We teach that people who have been born again are saved forever and cannot lose their salvation. A true believer persists in their attachment to and love for Jesus.

**The Eternal State:** We teach that all born again people when they die will go to heaven and enjoy it forever. We also teach that all people who have not been born again when they die will go to hell.

**Civil Government:** We teach that the secular governments, good and bad, are set up by God. We believe they should be obeyed and respected, but if the good or bad government tells us to disobey God then we have the duty to obey God, and disobey the government.

**The Second Coming of Jesus:** We teach that Jesus is going to return, and that His coming will include the resurrection and glorification (making new) of the bodies of dead Christians, as well as the glorification (making new) of the bodies of living Christians. After Jesus returns there will be a final resurrection of all people both Christians and non-Christians. This resurrection will be followed by a judgment and at that judgment all non-Christians will be cast into the lake of fire, and all Christians will enter heavenly glory.