

Q&A: How can my church join the CCBA?

CCBA is a growing family of Baptist Churches working together to grow the Kingdom of God in the Southern part of the San Francisco Bay Area (Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterrey, San Benito, and southern San Mateo Counties). We are always open to embrace new like-minded churches into our fellowship.

Is CCBA the “right place” for your church?

Let us first define who we are. This may help you decide if CCBA is the kind of organization to which you want to belong:

- a) Our Core Ideology: the local church is THE strategy established by Jesus Christ to reach the world He loves.
- b) Our “Big, Heavenly, Audacious Goal:” To become the most effective team of healthy, evangelistic, and reproducing churches in the United States.
- c) Our Values: Connection, Compassion, Creativity, Character, and Accountability.

For a taste of our ongoing services and ministries please browse through our website, www.ccbaministries.org.

Who can join?

CCBA is a fellowship of BAPTIST CHURCHES, nothing more, nothing less. So what makes a “church”? We understand the church to be a local group of baptized followers of Jesus Christ who have organized themselves with the purpose of glorifying Him by carrying out His mandate as stated in the Great Commission. Your church is “Baptist” if by vote of the members you decide to affirm the basic Baptist beliefs and embrace a Baptist way of governance. Please review *CCBA’s Statement of Faith* to have an overall understanding our commonly-held beliefs.

We can schedule a preliminary meeting with your church and leadership to explain who we are and how we can work together. Just contact our office to make arrangements.

If your church has already chosen to identify itself as Baptist and desires to collaborate with like-minded churches, then you are welcome to apply for membership.

What is the process to join CCBA?

- a) Take an official vote in your church where the congregation agrees to pursue membership in CCBA and authorize an official representative of the church to initiate the application process.
- b) Request an Application for Membership from: Oscar Bauer, Church Planting Director, 8457 Wren Avenue, Gilroy, CA. 95020 (or e-mail: newchurch@ccbaministries.org).
- c) Fill the application and mail it back. If you have questions on how to fill-in any line on the application call the Church Planting Director for assistance (ph. 408-846-6600 or 408-712-2879).
- d) Once your application has been received, it goes through several internal steps at CCBA:
 - (1) Review of the application by the Membership Committee of CCBA.

- (2) Interview between the CCBA Membership Committee and your pastor and leadership. The Membership Committee will schedule with your representative a convenient time to meet face-to-face to have a formal dialog about your and our interests, questions, concerns, etc.
- (3) Decision to recommend or decline membership by the Membership Committee.
- (4) If the decision is affirmative, the application will be submitted to the Executive Board to provide "provisional membership" until the Associational Annual Meeting.
- (5) Full Membership granted by all the sister churches in the CCBA Annual Meeting. Your church will need to be represented in this meeting.

What are the basic benefits and responsibilities of membership?

As a member church your congregation will have access to all the benefits of membership.

- a) You can attend our seminars, conferences and workshops (ie: Baylaws Workshop, Vacation Bible School Clinics, CMI (Community Ministries International) Missions Conference, Church Leadership Training, and more).
- b) You can get consultation and support services from our staff.
- c) We can assist you to connect with other Baptist organizations to secure resources, training opportunities, mission involvement opportunities, etc. (i.e.: A full slate of Camps and Retreats, OnTarget Evangelism Conference, Mission Projects around the state and the world, Disaster Relief training and participation, etc.)
- d) You will receive our *Voices* Magazine, electronic news magazine, etc.
- e) You can send messengers (voting representatives) to the Annual Meeting.
- f) Your members will qualify to participate in the different boards and ministry teams (i.e.: feeding ministries, refugee ministries, literacy programs, mission projects, etc.)

What we expect from your church is participation and support.

- a) We expect your members to get involved in many of the joint ministry opportunities available for the benefit of our communities and churches. Our goal is not only to fellowship. We expect your members to participate in the training opportunities and ministries that CCBA offers. Doing these two things will enhance the ministry of your church, bless the community, and extend our Lord's Kingdom.
- b) We expect your church to contribute a percentage of your monthly receipts to support the overall ministry of CCBA. We encourage the churches to give at least a tithe (10% of its undesignated receipts) to Baptist Missions. Each church decides the percentage given and its distribution (i.e.: 5% Associational Missions, 5% Cooperative Program: State and National Conventions. CCBA new member churches agree to give a minimum of 3% to Associational Missions, but can give more, as this example illustrates.). By pooling together our resources we do many things that we could never accomplish alone.

We pray that God leads you to join our ever-growing fellowship of churches.