



Bright Hope Membership & Baptism Applications

Baptism Application (pages 1-2). Please return at least 1 week prior to scheduled Baptism.

Membership Application (pages 2-3). Please return at least 3 days prior to Membership Class.

By completing either (or both) applications, I affirm that I have received Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord, and desire to live obediently to Him and be an active part of the ministries of BHCC.

These applications can be completed: a) in writing (and deliver to Pastor Chris or Justi); b) by typing responses directly into this document (preferably in a different color) and emailing to: brighthopebutler@gmail.com ; or 3) by scanning the QR codes below and submitting your application through these Google Forms:

BAPTISM:



MEMBERSHIP:



Bright Hope Baptism Application

We believe baptism is an outward expression of inward faith in Jesus Christ. It symbolizes the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. Baptism does not save or guarantee salvation; rather, it is an act of obedience and a public profession of faith in Christ. Therefore, baptism is for those who personally profess faith in Jesus Christ.

Step 1: Review the section on Believer's Baptism under "The Significance and Place of the Two Ordinances of the Local Church" (in the "Bright Hope Membership Guide")

Step 2: Complete & return this baptism application (if it is your desire to be baptized).

Name: _____
Birthdate: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please share your story about when you came to faith in Jesus (attach extra paper if needed):

If God were to ask you why you should be allowed into heaven, what would you say? _____

Why do you want to get baptized? _____

Please check one:

- ☐ I am ready to schedule my baptism (more info will be provided after your application is reviewed)
☐ I need more information before I am ready to schedule my baptism (pastor and/or deacon will contact you)

Bright Hope Membership Application

We believe that baptism and church membership go hand in hand. In Scripture, water baptism consistently occurs as soon as possible following conversion. Local church membership is not directly addressed in Scripture, but it is implied in several passages (Acts 2:41,47; Acts 6:3; Heb 13:17 discusses authority and structure in the church; and 1 Cor. 5 refers to people who are inside the church versus those outside). We encourage baptized believers to serve within, be accountable to, and formally commit to this local church. Non-members still have opportunities to serve within this local church, but specific roles, such as teaching and leadership, can be filled only by members of Bright Hope.

First & Last Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Occupation: _____

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

Members of your current household	Relationship	Birthdate

Have you been baptized by immersion (see Section "1. Believer's Baptism" - page 4 of Membership Guide)? ____ Yes ____ No When? _____

We believe that Believer's Baptism is prerequisite for membership, however, your desire to be a member should not be your motivation for baptism. Baptism should be a response of obedience to God and a declaration of His saving work in your life.

If you have not been baptized, is this something you would like to do? _____

Alternately, you can also complete these applications using the QR codes below:

(cont'd)→

Are you currently a member of a previous church? If so, where? _____

If applicable, are you leaving your previous church on good terms? _____ Why did you decide to leave? _____

If you are a member of another church, you need to speak with someone in leadership in that church and explain why you are leaving. We value unity at Bright Hope, and the unity of your previous church is critical as well.

Is there anything you disagree with in BHCC's Essential Guidelines and Beliefs? _____

If so, which part(s) & can you give a biblical reason for your disagreement?

We believe that regular giving is a commitment that each member should make. Giving is biblical, it is voluntary, it is to be cheerful, and it is to be proportional to how God has blessed you. While the amount you give is between you and God, God has modeled generous giving through the grace He has freely and joyfully given to us. Do you have any questions or comments about giving to the work at BHCC?

In what way(s) do you desire to serve within your church family based on your interests, abilities, gifts, and time (see *Ministries* in the Church Profile)

I prefer to attend membership class on this date: _____ (options will be announced)

****Please write your personal testimony of how you came to Christ on the next page with your name and date. Be sure to attach that paper to this application. We will ask you to verbally share your testimony in a Membership Interview with at least one deacon and wife.**

I have had access to a copy of the *BHCC Essential Guidelines and Beliefs* (pages 18-30 of this packet) and I understand the positions of BHCC. As a member of this church, I will abide by these guidelines, and seek to fulfill the membership responsibilities to the best of my ability with God's help and will endeavor to grow in the Word and fulfill my responsibilities to the Lord and to His work.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit this application and salvation testimony to BHCC Secretary, Justi McGrady, by email to brighthopebutler@gmail.com . Alternately, submit a hard-copy of your application.

Salvation Testimony of _____.

Today's date: _____

**Leadership Team Use
Only**

Interview by Deacon (date; signature): ____/____/____ ; _____.

Deacon Recommendation (yes or no): _____

Pending baptism (yes or no): _____

Please return to Church Secretary

Congregational Meeting Decision ____/____/____

Salvation Testimony of _____.

Today's date: _____

CONTINUED: