

Deeper Life 101 Outline:

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Uniting with Jesus in His Mission

Our Mission is to Make More and Better Followers of Jesus Christ.

What's a follower? A follower is another name for a disciple. A disciple is a Spirit-filled follower of Jesus learning to love God and others.

Core Values for Berlin Christian Church

1. We value the Bible as God's Word.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

2. We value the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

3. We value the Great Commission.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

4. We value the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. (1 Corinthians 12:4-6)

5. We value Christian worship.

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD. (Psalm 150:6)

6. We value Christian unity.

I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:23)

7. We value Christian fellowship.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. (Acts 2:42-44)

Uniting with Jesus in His Body¹

The Restoration Movement is a two centuries old effort on the part of God's Spirit and God's people to call believers into Christian unity based on the authority of the Word of God.

Berlin Christian Church is an independent Christian Church that is part of a world-wide fellowship of churches commonly called Christian Churches and Churches of Christ. Our heritage is rooted in what is commonly called the Restoration Movement—a two centuries old effort on the part of God's Spirit and God's people to call believers into Christian unity based on the authority of God's Word. Churches who have flourished within the Restoration Movement share a fundamental commitment to six key principles:

The Unity All Can Achieve

In matters of faith, unity

In matters of opinion, liberty

In all things, love

We share a commitment to building unity throughout the body of Christ. In Matthew 12:25 Jesus underscored the critical importance of unity when he said, *"Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand."* This is why later, in John 17:23, Jesus prayed for those who would believe in his name, *"...may they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."*

The Book All Can Believe.

The Word of God is our *primary* means of achieving unity and doctrinal purity.

We share a deep desire to restore the authority of Scripture to its rightful place both in the Church and in our personal lives. The Word of God is our primary means of achieving the Christian unity and doctrinal purity described above. Members of the New Testament Church devoted themselves daily to the study of the Word of God (Acts 2:42). They believed the Bible was *"God-breathed"* and useful for *"teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness"* (2 Timothy 3:16). They understood the power of the Bible to transform lives (John 17:17), direct people deeper into the purposes of God (Psalm 119:105), and establish a recognizable unity (John 17:17). Because of their fundamental commitment to the Word of God, the early Church flourished. We believe the Bible is God's vehicle to unite us and mature us in Christ. The Bible is central in all that we do.

The Creed All Can Accept

We have *No Creed but Christ* and *No Book but the Bible*.

We share a creed that all Christians can embrace, namely Jesus Christ. Concerning Jesus, the Bible tells us in John 1:1, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and*

¹ This material is borrowed from Lakeside Christian Church in Springfield, IL.

the Word was God." Hebrews 1:2 says, "... in these last days God has spoken to us by his Son." In these passages Jesus is God's personal Word. He is our living, dynamic Savior who came from the Father full of grace and truth. The early Church achieved great unity as they embraced God's living, personal Word Jesus Christ. We believe great unity can be achieved by setting aside divisive, manmade creeds and cumbersome doctrinal statements to simply embrace the person, work and teachings of Jesus Christ as recorded in Scripture. We have "No Creed but Christ" and "No Book but the Bible."

The Faith All Can Live

"Follow my example, as I follow Christ"

- Apostle Paul

We share a common faith that all can live. In John 14:6 Jesus told his followers, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* With these words, Jesus was calling his disciples to pattern their faith and lifestyle after the example he was setting for them. Members of the early Church picked up on this idea and frequently referred to themselves as followers of "the Way" (see Acts 9:2, 24:14). As a Christian Church, we simply invite those in our fellowship and beyond to follow our example as we follow Christ. We embrace a simple New Testament Christianity that is patterned after the faith and practices of Jesus Christ and the early Church.

The Name All Can Wear

We aren't the *only* Christians, we are *Christians only*.

We share a common name that all can wear, "Christian." In 1 Corinthians 3:3-4 the apostle Paul warns us against professing our allegiance to men or movements when he wrote, *"You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? For when one says 'I follow Paul' and another 'I follow Apollos,' are you not mere men?"* Later in 1 Corinthians 3:21-23 Paul says, *"No more boasting about men... you are of Christ, and Christ is of God."* In our day people refer to themselves as Catholics, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Calvinists, etc. As in Paul's day, our loyalty to men, movements and labels creates unnecessary division. So we purposefully take the generic name "Christian Church" to avoid this very real danger. We describe ourselves as a body of believers this way: "We aren't the only Christians, we are Christians only."

The Leaders We Follow

Christ is the head of His church (Colossians 1.18). In the New Testament, we observe that the church was led by elders (Acts 20.28; 1 Timothy 3.1-7; Titus 1.5-9; Hebrews 13.7, 17; 1 Peter 5.1-4). Berlin Christian Church follows the example of the New Testament as an elder-led church. The elders partner with deacons and ministers to form the leadership team. Elders and deacons serve for three years and then are given a one-year sabbatical. Our church is self-governed by our elders.

Berlin Christian Church History

Making More and Better Followers Since 1824

In 1824, Andrew Scott settled near Island Grove about a mile and a half northwest of Berlin. It wasn't long before Andrew Scott partnered with a Baptist preacher, Theophilus Sweet. They began teaching and preaching the true faith and pure gospel in a log cabin schoolhouse. In 1842, a frame chapel was built on this property and became known as the Mt. Zion Christian Church. In the early years, the church was served by Andrew Scott, Theophilus Sweet, Judge J. W. Taylor, A. J. Kane, Dr. Mallory, Charles O. Rowe, Harrison Osborn, and Robert Foster.

Berlin Christian Church was the second Christian Church organized in Sangamon County and the fourth Christian Church organized in the state.

In 1859, a new chapel was built at 113 East First Street in Berlin (currently home to Kountry Kids Learning Center). At this time, the congregation became known as Berlin Christian Church. The Bible School began in 1867. On September 15, 1929, the basement was dedicated. In 1964, the parsonage to the west (100 N. Main Street) was built. In 1983, the education wing was built and dedicated. In 1998, the sanctuary was remodeled.

In 2007, after receiving a generous gift of 10 acres, the congregation broke ground at their current location, 2580 South Wake Road. On November 2, 2008, the congregation dedicated the currently facility of 12,000 square feet. Total construction costs were \$700,000.00. With the sale of the properties at 113 E. First Street and 100 N. Main Street, coupled with generous and sacrificial giving, the church paid \$400,000.00 cash before taking out a loan to finish construction.

Missionaries that Berlin Christian Church currently supports are: Loami Area Community Pantry (Loami, IL), Lewis Memorial Christian Village (Springfield, IL), Lake Springfield Christian Assembly (Chatham, IL), Inner City Mission (Springfield, IL), Lincoln Christian University (Lincoln, IL), Ozark Christian College (Joplin, MO), Church Growth Ministries (Enid, OK), Mathetes Missions (Phillipines), Asia Pacific International (Indonesia), Alex and Lauren Follett - Pioneer Bible Translators (Guinea, Africa).

Members of the Berlin Christian Church have served in a variety of short-term mission projects both domestically and internationally in countries such as: Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Jamaica, St. Vincent, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Tanzania, and other African nations, Philippines, and Indonesia.

Warren Brosi, current minister with Berlin Christian Church comments, "It is a joy to serve a congregation with such a long history. It amazes me how God can revive an older congregation, restore her health, and reach our community with His unfailing love. I am confident that we are still pursuing our mission to make more and better followers of Jesus Christ."

In addition to those ministers who served in the early years of Berlin Christian Church, the following ministers also served with BCC: T. T. Holton (1870's), M. R. Elder (1883-85), S. F. Rogers (1888-90), W. H. Kindred (1895), Louis Goss, George Bullock (1902-04), J. W. Bolton

(1906-11), H. V. Davis, R. E. Hughes, C. C. Hill, Mr. Gentry, Z. M. Brubeck, L. P. Nebelung, Earl Leffelman, R. L. Brown, Mollie Carr Brown, Mark Harris, Harold Paddock, Walter Cruzan, D. Wayne McFarland, John Honey, Charles Hudson, Drury Benton, Trew Lockhart, John Witt, Sidney Payne, David McFaddon, Harvey Waddelow, Gary Knight, Robert Weaver, Ed Myer, Jerry Lynch (1970-72), Rick Harris, Bill Davis, Jim Wismer, Jim Bormann, Clay Ham, Don Wright, Bryan Longworth, Jon Morrissette (1996-2000), Jason Wetherholt (2000, youth minister), Mark Searby (2000-2001), Warren Brosi (2000-present), Luke Arnold (2002-2005, youth minister), Dawn Marie Huddleston (2005-2006, worship minister), Scott Nichols (2013-2017, family life minister), Michael Hinnen (2018-present).

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Uniting with Jesus in His Death & Resurrection

Five responses of saving faith:

1. Trust

Ephesians 2:8–10 (ESV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Repentance

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

3. Confession

Romans 10:9 (ESV)

⁹ Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

4. Baptism

Romans 6:3–4 (ESV)

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5. Faithfulness

James 2:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

In some ways, the Christian life is a continuation of the first step of trusting in God or living faithfully.

Baptism

Since there are many different views on baptism, here's a brief overview of the teachings of Scripture (some of this material is adapted from Mustard Seed Fellowship).

1. Baptism shows we died to sin in Christ.

Romans 6:5–7 (ESV), ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin.

2. Baptism shows we are raised to life in Christ.

Romans 6:8 (ESV), ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

James S. Stewart, *The Life and Teaching of Jesus Christ*, “Jesus went down into the Jordan to take his stand by the side of sinners. When you see the sinless Christ going into the sinner’s baptism, you are seeing love going to a great redeeming act of self-identification.”

The Greek word for baptism (*baptizo*) has always been used to signify the total immersion, or total saturation, of a person or object in water. Baptism by immersion gives us a beautiful picture of uniting with Jesus in His death and resurrection. At Berlin Christian Church, we follow the example of the New Testament and require baptism by immersion for membership.

3. Baptism shows our sins have been forgiven.

Acts 22:16 (ESV), ¹⁶ And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’

1 Peter 3:21 (NIV), ²¹ And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

4. Baptism shows we have received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 (ESV), ³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

5. Baptism shows we are members of God’s family.

Galatians 3:26–28 (ESV), ²⁶ For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The Lord's Supper

We recognize the great diversity of beliefs among Christians concerning the important subjects of communion and baptism. In the following section our goal is to briefly outline our perspective on these points of doctrine to help you gain understanding.

Why Do We Celebrate the Lord's Supper Weekly?

In the early Church communion was practiced whenever and wherever Christians gathered. In Acts 2:46 we are told, *"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts..."* In Acts 20:7 we are told the early Christians gathered *"on the first day of the week..."*

Many fear that taking communion weekly cheapens the celebration by making it routine. Our obligation is to celebrate communion with the spirit of the early Christian who partook with *"glad and sincere hearts."*

What is the Meaning of the Lord's Supper?

The Lord's Supper is a memorial feast. In Luke 22:19 Jesus commanded us, *"... do this in remembrance of me."* The Lord's Supper commemorates Jesus Christ's death, burial and resurrection. The breaking of bread and sharing of wine experientially causes us to consider God's greatest act in history—the breaking of Christ's body and pouring out of Christ's blood to deliver us from the power of sin and death.

The Lord's Supper is a proclamation. In 1 Corinthians 11:26 Paul writes, *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death."* Specifically, we are proclaiming our trust in Jesus Christ's sacrifice but also our allegiance to his name.

The Lord's Supper is communion with, and a celebration of, Jesus Christ. In 1 Corinthians 10:16 Paul writes, *"Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?"* Communion draws us together with one another and Christ in thanksgiving.

The Lord's Supper is a renewal of commitment. In 1 Corinthians 11:27 a judgment falls on those who take communion without first reconciling with Jesus Christ and his people, the Church. Communion involves eliminating the presence of sin in our lives.

Who Should Participate in the Lord's Supper?

At Berlin, we practice open communion. The Lord's Supper is open to every believer who has trusted in Jesus Christ. The Lord's Supper is for the family of God. The individual partaking of communion must grasp the meaning of the Lord's Supper.

Uniting with Jesus Every Day: Next Steps²

"the godly have deep roots" (Proverbs 12.3, NLT)

For those who call Berlin Christian Church home, we encourage all people to attend two courses: Deeper Life 101 and 3 Colors of Your Gifts. These two courses help you understand core beliefs and your spiritual gifts for service. In addition to those 2 courses, we invite you to join a group and to develop your relationship with Jesus. **A Disciple is a Spirit-filled follower of Jesus learning to love God and others.**

Discipleship Pathway

1—Deeper Life 101

2—3 Colors of Your Gifts

3—Group Life: Serve and join a group. Enter a discipling relationship.

4—Spiritual Practices: Daily relationship building with our Father (Bible study and prayer for example)

Spiritual growth is a process that gradually unfolds over time with four recognizable growth stages. As we grow, our needs change dramatically. If these needs are not met, our growth will be stunted. But if these needs are met at each successive stage, we will flourish into growing, life-giving Christians.



The first stage of spiritual growth is represented by a **seed**. A seed has tremendous potential for life, but remains dead until cultivated in a nutrient-rich environment. For spiritual growth to begin, we must put ourselves in an environment where we can *know* basic truths about Jesus Christ's life and ministry, *respond* to Christ's life through faith, *connect* into redemptive community, and *see* the power of God at work in our world. The Church has a responsibility to create such an environment; but each disciple has a responsibility to make the most of the opportunities provided by the Church.

MOVE FROM SEED TO SEEDLING³:

- 1) The church is indispensable. The church sets the stage for growth.
- 2) The church's most important job is to build trust in Christ. The top-priority goal for the church is to convince those far from God that the core Christian beliefs are trustworthy.

² This material is borrowed from Lakeside Christian Church in Springfield, IL.

³ The three movements have been identified by Greg L. Hawkins and Cally Parkinson in their book, *MOVE—What 1,000 Churches Reveal About Spiritual Growth*, 2011, P. 128.



The second stage of spiritual growth is represented by a **seedling**. A seedling has begun to realize its potential for life, but remains fragile and vulnerable. For spiritual growth to take hold at this stage, we must *grow* deeper in our love and appreciation for Jesus Christ, *be filled* with God’s Holy Spirit through the Christian disciplines, live out the “*one-another*” passages among the body of Christ, and become an *influence* for Christ in our world.

MOVE FROM SEEDLING TO TREE⁴:

- 1) Confidence is Crucial. Accepting certain core theological beliefs builds confidence of a personal God (one who is “actively involved in my life.”)
- 2) Personal Spiritual Practices Are Key. Increasing the frequency of spiritual practices opens the door to a personal relationship with Christ.
- 3) Going Public is Catalytic. As followers grow bolder in their faith, people begin “going public” and engage in outreach experiences that catalyze growth.



The third stage of spiritual growth is represented by a **tree**. A tree is well on its way to producing the fruit. At this stage, the Christian is bearing fruit in character and in service. To continue bearing fruit, we must *stand* firm in our devotion to Jesus Christ, *live* out Christ’s lifestyle of loving God and loving people, *apprentice* other believers to be fruitful, and *add* new life in Christ by helping people outside the family of God to know Christ.

MOVE FROM TREE TO ORCHARD⁵:

- 1) It’s All about Movement of the Heart. The faith of more mature believers is characterized by increasing emotional depth.
- 2) It Takes Place Largely Outside of the Church. Daily dedication to personal spiritual practices paves the way for wide-ranging outreach activities.



The fourth stage of spiritual growth is represented by an **orchard**. An orchard is successfully multiplying new life beyond itself. At this stage, the Christian is responsible for, and surrounded by, people in various stages of development—seeds, seedlings, and trees. To be effective, a disciple must *remain* immovable and unshakably loyal to Jesus Christ, actively *model* Christ’s lifestyle to others, *shepherd* the life and health of the body of Christ, and *multiply* new life in Christ by training up evangelists and ministers. At this fourth stage a disciple has begun to realize his or her fullest potential in Christ.

⁴ Hawkins and Parkinson, p. 140.

⁵ Hawkins and Parkinson, p. 154-155.

Berlin Christian Church Discipleship Overview

A Disciple is a Spirit-filled follower of Jesus learning to love God and others.

<i>Parable of the Soils</i> (Matthew 13)	Love God Matthew 22.37-38		Love Others Matthew 22.39-40	
	BELIEVING IN JESUS	BECOMING SPIRIT-FILLED	BUILDING GOD’S FAMILY	BLESSING THE WORLD
Seed <i>Come and See</i> (John 1.39)	Does God exist? Does God love me? Who is Jesus? How do I become a Christian?	Who is the Holy Spirit? Am I listening to the Spirit’s voice?	Am I gathering for worship? Why do we need to love others? How do I love my family?	Who is my neighbor? What can I even do?
Seedling <i>Follow Me</i> (Matthew 16.24)	Am I growing in my love for the Father? What am I doing about my idols? Am I becoming more Christlike in my attitude and actions?	What are my spiritual gifts? Am I becoming spirit-filled? How do we deal with conflict? Are we growing in Spiritual habits?	Are we living out the “one another” passages in the Bible? Are my family relationships improving?	How do we share our faith with neighbors and the nations? How do I make disciples? Do we know we are blessed to bless others?
Tree <i>Be with Me</i> (John 17.24)	How do we lead in a faithful way? Can we defend our faith in Jesus?	How do we overcome temptations? Do we help others by using our gifts from the Spirit?	How do I lead a small group or teach a class? How do I lead my family in the ways of Jesus?	What opportunities do I see to serve my neighbors or the nations?
Orchard <i>Remain in Me</i> (John 15.5)	Will I remain faithful to the Father through suffering?	Is the fruit of the Spirit bearing fruit in our lives?	How do I lead other leaders? Does our family reflect a legacy of faith in Jesus?	What blessings will persist in the next generation?

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

For access to RightNow Media, the Netflix of Christian Bible studies, text BERLINCC to 49775.

Holy Habits

- *The Life You've Always Wanted* by John Ortberg
- *The Spirit of the Disciplines* by Dallas Willard
- *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster
- *3 Colors of Your Spirituality* by Christian A. Schwarz
- Biblicaltraining.org

Scripture Reading

- Bible Project Video- How to Read the Bible Series- <https://thebibleproject.com/all-videos/how-to-read-the-bible/>
- OCC Next Level- How to Read the Bible by Michael Defazio- <https://occ.edu/series/how-to-read-the-bible>
- *How to Read the Bible for All its Worth* by Gordon Fee
- *The Fire of the Word: Meeting God on Holy Ground* by Chris Webb
- *Core 52: A Fifteen-Minute Daily Guide to Build Your Bible IQ in a Year* by Mark Moore

Prayer

- *Praying the Bible* by Donald Whitney
- *Prayer* by Timothy Keller
- *Extreme Prayer: The Impossible Prayers God Promises to Answer* by Greg Pruett
- *The Lord and His prayer* by NT Wright
- *Love to Pray* by Alvin Vandergrind (40 days of prayer from Harvest Prayer Ministries)
- *The Hour That Changes the World: A Practical Plan for Personal Prayer* by Dick Eastman
- "5 Psalms Prayer" App

Service

- *When Helping Hurts* by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert
- *The 3 Colors of Your Gifts: A Trinitarian Approach to Identifying and Developing Your Spiritual Gifts* by Christian A. Schwarz
- *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit* by Francis Chan and Danae Yankoski
- *The Imitation of Christ* by Thomas a Kempis
- *The Practice of the Presence of God* by Brother Lawrence

Freedom from Sin

- "Things Above" Podcast- Apprentice Institute- <https://apprenticeinstitute.org/things-above-podcast/>
- *Humility* by Andrew Murray
- *Renovation of the Heart* by Dallas Willard
- *Finally Free: Fighting for Purity with the Power of Grace* by Heath Lambert
- *An Approach to Extended Memorization of Scripture* by Dr. Andrew Davis
- *What's So Amazing About Grace?* by Philip Yancey
- *Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan

Generosity

- Jon Kehrer sermon, OCC chapel- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCjFepa-9M8>
- *God and Your Stuff* by Wes Wilmer
- *God and Money: How We Discovered True Riches at Harvard Business School* by Gregory Baumer and John Cortines
- ILikeGiving.com

Parenting

- *The Five Love Languages of Children* by Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell
- *Roadmap to Responsibility: The Power of Give 'em Five to Transform Families* by Larry Thompson, Melissa Beck, & Angela Thompson
- *Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Last Faith in Your Kids* by Dr. Kara E. Powell & Dr. Chap Clark
- *Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family* by Paul David Tripp
- *The Tech-Wise Family: Everyday Steps for Putting Technology in its Proper Place* by Andy Crouch

Sharing God's Story and Your Story

- *The Reason for God* by Tim Keller
- *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist* by Norman Geisler
- *Between Two Trees* by Shane Wood
- *Case For Faith: A Journalist Investigates the Toughest Objections to Christianity* by Lee Strobel
- *Not a Fan* by Kyle Idleman

THE BERLIN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

I. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH.

...By acting in love toward other members.

...By refusing to gossip.

...By following the leaders.

Romans 15:5 (The Message)

5 May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all.

1 Peter 1:22 (Good News Translation)

22 Now that by your obedience to the truth you have purified yourselves and have come to have a sincere love for your fellow-believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Hebrews 13:17 (NIV)

17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

II. I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH.

...By praying for its growth.

...By inviting the unchurched to attend.

...By warmly welcoming those who visit.

1 Thessalonians 1:2 (NIV)

2 We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.

Luke 14:23 (The Message)

23 “The master said, ‘Then go to the country roads. Whoever you find, drag them in. I want my house full!’

Romans 15:7 (NIV)

7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God

III. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH.

...By discovering my gifts and talents.

...By being equipped to use my gifts and talents to serve.

...By developing a servant's heart.

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)

11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

Philippians 2:3-4, 7 (New American Standard Bible 1995)

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others... ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

IV. I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH.

...By attending faithfully.

...By living honestly.

...By giving regularly.

Hebrews 10:25 (NASB95)

25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Philippians 1:27 (NASB95)

27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV)

2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

BCC Ministry Opportunities (April 2022)

Name

First _____ Last _____

Street Address _____

City _____ IL _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Cell Phone: () _____ Do you text? Y N

E-mail address: _____

I would describe myself as (Circle all that apply):

Organized Detail-oriented Enthusiastic A people-person Patient A good motivator
Someone who likes to work with children Someone who likes to work with seniors
Someone who likes to work with teenagers Someone who likes to work with adults

I would prefer: (Circle all that apply)

to perform regularly scheduled work to do a one-time job
to do something familiar to try something new

CIRCLE THE MINISTRY POSITION(S) IN WHICH YOU ARE INTERESTED, PASSIONATE & GIFTED. RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE.

Campus Presentation Ministry (Building & Grounds): Ministry Leader Contact and Leadership Liaison— John Ruby (899-5193)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Groundskeeper	Maintain landscaping, weed flowers, water during dry season, pick up trash, assist with snow removal	Serving, outdoor person	1 year
Maintenance	Assist in routine maintenance of building	Serving, construction, trade skills	1 year

Family & Christian Education Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact— Michael Hinnen (488-6204)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Teacher for JAM, Encore, God Squad, VBS	Teaching/Leading from curriculum. Willing to invest your life into your students. Opportunities on Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, and other nights.	Teaching, Shepherding, Encouragement	1 year
Teacher Assistant for JAM, Encore, God Squad, VBS	Assist teacher with class preparations and management Opportunities on Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, and other nights.	Serving, Helps, Encouragement, Shepherding	1 year
Arts & Crafts Leader/Assistant	Lead or Assist in arts/crafts for children’s events	Artistic creativity, craftsmanship, helps	Occasional
Refreshments Leaders/Assistant	Lead or Assist in refreshments for children’s events	Cooking, helps, service	Occasional
Nursery Volunteer	Care for babies/toddlers in nursery for Sunday programs, Wednesday nights, and other special events	Teaching, shepherding, mercy, serving, helps	1 year (rotation)
Youth Leader	Assist in youth JAM, special events, and meetings, Sunday mornings or Sunday evenings	Shepherding, mercy, encouragement, teaching	1 year
Small Group Leader	Leading small group to deepen their faith in Jesus	Shepherding, teaching	1 year

Small Group Host	Host a small group in your home	Hospitality, encouragement	1 year
Transportation	Drive church van for different events or bring people to church	Serving, safe driving record, J02	1 year

Hospitality Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact— Church Office (488-6204)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Funeral Dinner Preparation	Prepare food for funeral dinner, assist in serving meal at church, greet people as they come	Helps, service, hospitality, good cooks!!	1 year (occasional)
Food Ministry	Willing to coordinate food for meetings of all sizes	Organization, hospitality	1 year (occasional)
Meal Train Member	Provide food for people in need, recovering from surgery, etc.	Helps, service, hospitality, good cooks!!	1 year (occasional)

Leadership Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact— Chairman of Leadership Team

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Elder	Oversee the ministry of the church	Shepherding, leadership, administration	3-year term
Deacon	Lead in a specific area of ministry	Serving, Encouragement, Mercy	3-year term
Treasurer	Oversee current funds, pay bills, monthly reports to Leadership Team	Administration, Giving, accounting, computer skills	1 year
Treasurer's Assistant	Assist Treasurer in counting offerings, making deposits	Administration, Giving, Helps	1 year

Mission Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact— Kathy Howell - Chairperson (618-319-3437)

Leadership Liaison – Rick Carr

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Missions Team Member	Correspond with Missionaries we support. Educate congregation on those missions.	Missions, teaching, organization	One year

Outreach Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact— (Looking for Leader, See Warren Brosi, 488-6204)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Instant Response Team	Follow up with First time guests to worship on Monday evenings by bringing a gift & info. on BCC	Helps, need transportation and enjoy meeting new people	One hour a week, one year
Outreach Event Planner	Plan, Organize, and Execute outreach events to our community.	Evangelism, Organization, Administration, Vision for Lost People	2-3 big events each year
Outreach Event Helper	Help in special ways to make outreach event successful	Helps, Serving	2-3 big events per year
Website Designer	Design & Maintain church website	Helps, organization, computer and web page development	1 year
Parish Nursing	Encourage, Educate members in the congregation on whole health & spiritual issues. Assist pastor in calling.	Mercy, parish nurse training, counseling	1 year (occasional)

Prayer Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact— Cheryl Pippin (891-9798)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Prayer Leader	Plan new prayer focus themes and share with congregation different ways to pray (e.g. music, art, drama)	Organization, artistic creativity, music, prayer	1 year (new prayer focus each month)
Prayer Warrior	A person who enjoys and is dedicated to spending extended time in prayer	Prayer, faith, pray for others in a respectful and confidential way	1 year
Sunday Morning Prayer Warrior	Commit to praying on a rotation for Sunday worship & JAM for one hour a week whenever/wherever you choose.	Prayer, Faith, pray for an hour at a time	1 year
Prayer Team Administrator	Organize prayer lists & schedules, help plan upcoming prayer events	Organization, administration	1 year
Group Prayer Member	Meet at church regularly to pray for the ministry of BCC as a group	Prayer, faith, encouragement,	Once or twice a month.
Prayer Board Designer	Plan and design a prayer bulletin board to align with our monthly prayer focus	Artistic creativity, organization	1 year

Safety Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact—Glenn Smith (416-6270)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Security Monitor	Monitor safety and security for all events at BCC.	Serving, be trained in providing a safe place for all who come on the campus of BCC	1 year
Safety Team Member	Handle any security or emergency incidents while they occur (ie. Medical Assist, Evacuation, Missing Child...)	Serving, helps, Nurses, police officers, EMT, those with special training in first aid, etc	1 year

Worship Ministry: Ministry Leader Contact—Brad Clair (488-2165)

Position	Description	Gifts/Abilities Needed	Time Commitment
Musician	Play instrument to lead congregation in worship	Music, service, able to play musical instrument	1 year
Vocalist	Sing on team to lead congregation in worship	Music, service, good singing voice	1 year
Sound	Operate sound for worship service and rehearsal. (one night/one Sunday a month on a rotation)	Helps, service, willing to be trained to use equipment	1 year
Video/Easy Worship	Operate computer for worship service, rehearsal, live streaming (one night/one Sunday a month on a rotation)	Helps, service, willing to be trained to use equipment	1 year
Online Host	Greet and share with people in our online worship gatherings on Facebook	Serving, hospitality, prayer	1 year
Greeter	Greet people as they enter the building, direct guests to areas they need (nursery, restrooms, etc). Stand outside and Open door for all guests who enter BCC	Serving, encouragement, mercy sensitive to people's needs, hospitality Serving, able to stand for long periods of time and open the door	1 year (rotation)
Ushers	Assist guest to seat	Serving, enjoy greeting and seating people	1 year
Stage Ninjas	Help during worship service set up props for teaching/worship	Helps, serving	1 year

Design/Decorating	Create set designs to go with teaching theme and help set mood for service. Decorate for special events (ie. VBS).	Helps, artistic creativity, detail oriented, craftsmanship	1 year
Baptismal Assistant	Help candidates prepare for baptism and help after baptized	Serving, helps	1 year
Drama Team Member	Perform drama, dramatic or reflective Scripture readings	Artistic creativity, encouragement, serving	1 year (occasional)
Communion Preparation	Prepare communion for worship service	Serving, helps, enjoy food service prep.	1 year (monthly rotation)

Other Ministry Suggestions (Write your thoughts here):