

VALLEYBROOK COMMUNITY CHURCH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

1. I have received Christ as my Savior and Lord, and I desire to follow Him.

- Yes
- I am unclear and need to think about it further.

2. Baptism

- I have been baptized by immersion after becoming a Christian.
- I would like to be baptized at the next baptism service.
- I am unclear about this and would like to think about it further.

3. I am supportive of Valleybrook's

direction (Purpose, Vision, Values),

doctrine (Affirmation of Faith),

disciples (commitment to the people and Membership Covenant of Valleybrook),

discipline (accountability to the VB community, leadership, and Membership Covenant),

and am willing to be accountable to the spiritual oversight and shepherding of Valleybrook Community Church.

- Yes
- Not sure

4. It is my desire to be an investor of my time, treasures, and talents

- Yes
- Not sure

- I want to transfer my membership from another BGC church.

(Go to next page)

Please write out how you became a Christian.

Lined area for writing the response to the first question.

Please write out, to the best of your ability, your understanding of the gospel - God's plan of salvation

Lined area for writing the response to the second question.

Name _____ Date _____

13 Point Doctrinal Statement

The Bible - We believe the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

The Trinity - We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

God the Father - We believe in God, the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ - We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and visible return to earth.

The Holy Spirit - We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide.

Regeneration - We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

The Church - We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated personnel are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.

Christian Conduct - We believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well-being of his fellowmen; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions; and that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

Marriage - We believe that marriage is a sacred institution ordained by God for the well-being of mankind and the propagation of the human race. It is the spiritual and physical union of one man and one woman according to Scripture.

The Ordinances - We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water into the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Religious Liberty - We believe that every human being, has direct relations with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith. We believe that each church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that, therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions with each fulfilling its own duties.

Church Cooperation - We believe that local churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperation with one another in a denominational organization. Such an organization, whether a regional or district conference, exists and functions by the will of the churches. Cooperation in a conference is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. A church may likewise cooperate with interdenominational fellowships on a voluntary basis.

The Last Things - We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal felicity of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked.

Church Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior, and having been baptized by immersion as a believer, and being in agreement with Valleybrook's Vision, Purpose, Values, and Affirmation of Faith, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Valleybrook church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

1. I will protect the unity of my church

...by acting in love toward other members.

...by refusing to gossip and avoiding unkind words and unrighteous anger.

...by being slow to take offense and always ready for reconciliation.

...by giving and receiving correction and with gentleness.

Rom 14:19 - "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

Eph 4:29 - "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."

Eph 4:32 - "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Eph 4:2 - "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."

2. I will share the responsibility of my church

...by praying for its growth.

...by investing in relationships with the unchurched and inviting them to VB.

...by intentionally developing loving relationships with believers.

...by generously giving of my time, treasure, and talents.

1 Th 1:2 - We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers."

Luke 14:23 - "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.'"

Rom 15:7 - "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

2 Cor 9:6-7 - "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

3. I will serve the ministry of my church

...by discovering my gifts and talents.

...by serving in a ministry of the church as the Spirit leads.

...by developing a servant's heart.

1 Pet 4:10 - "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

1 Cor 12:27 - "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it"

Phil 2:3-4,7 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. {4} Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others...but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."

4. I will support the testimony of my church

...by attending faithfully its services and ordinances.

...by living a godly life.

...by warmly welcoming visitors.

...by supporting the direction and discipline of the leaders.

Heb 10:25 - "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Phil 1:27 - "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel"

Col 4:5 - "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity."

Heb 13:17 - "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."