

## Highland Park Church Application for Membership

Thank you for showing interest in church membership! Although we provide many ministry services for regular attenders, whether members or not, membership is important. It demonstrates a *commitment* and a *willingness to identify with the church family*. Members have privileges like voting and holding office; they exercise a deeper level of influence upon the direction of our church. If you love the Lord and consider yourself “settled” at Highland Park Church, it’s time to consider membership.

Since we are an independent, evangelical (Bible-believing) church, we encourage folks at all spiritual levels to attend here. But we do hold our *members* to a higher standard. Since our members have more influence, we expect them to: **1.** Clearly understand and claim a saving relationship with Jesus Christ; **2.** Agree with the general nature of our doctrinal statement; and **3.** Live in a way that honors the Lord. (Honoring the Lord means being dedicated to obeying the truths of Scripture in your daily life. This doesn't mean we expect perfection.)

If you are interested in membership, please briefly answer the questions below. Then one of our elders will discuss membership with you before your application is taken to our church board. Thank you for caring enough to connect! Please consider joining our team!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you looked over our constitution, especially the doctrinal portion? \_\_\_\_\_ Are there any areas in which you disagree? If so, please list areas of disagreement:

---



---



---

2. Do you have the assurance that you are saved, forgiven, and right with God? \_\_\_\_\_

---

3. Share your understanding of "How A Person Can Be Saved" (right with God, forgiven, and heaven-bound):

---



---



---



---

*(Note: If we think you are not clear on this point, we will ask you to take a single lesson titled “The Way of Salvation.” We want all our members to be crystal clear on this matter since this is most crucial. Please do not be offended by this precaution; we do occasionally ask folks to review this material.)*

4. Since our church is primarily about knowing and serving Jesus, do you have a serious desire to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ”? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Since our church is a body and we each have a part to play, will you (or are you already serving) serve/help this church in some capacity, depending upon your gifts, abilities, and personality? \_\_\_\_\_

6. We do not set quotas for our members as far as financially supporting the church; we do not pressure for funds, but we leave this matter strictly between God and the individual Christian. But will you prayerfully seek God’s direction about giving to support this ministry?  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Although we rarely need to enforce it, our church does practice church discipline for what we call “gross sin.” To preclude these situations, we want to inform you of the types of things we believe are totally incompatible with a Christian walk:

**Active, current engagement in** adultery, fornication (sexual relations before marriage or with someone other than one's spouse), homosexual acts, fraudulent/dishonest business dealings, spousal/child abuse, flippant divorce, drunkenness, use of illegal drugs, etc. **If you have engaged in some of these sins in the past but have repented of them, you are certainly welcome to apply for membership.**

Also, if you consider these practices to be viable options for your future (you are open to them), please do not join our church until you are ready to rid yourself of such behaviors. Are you free from such practices **right now** and do you agree to seriously shun such practices, with God’s help, **in the future**? \_\_\_\_\_

8. The mission of Highland Park Church is “**To reach people with Gospel of Christ, to connect believers to one another and to God, and to deepen them in their Christian walk.**” Are you comfortable with our mission? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Our church will always be far from perfect. You may have a few things you would like to see changed and improved. But can you be content with the church as it now is? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Will you seek to be patient and gracious to your fellow church members? \_\_\_\_\_

11. We expect our members to attend regularly. (We recommend weekly.) Members who attend only a few times a year, unless there are matters of distance, health, work schedules, etc., will be removed from our membership roll. Do you anticipate attending regularly? \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for completing this form. Either place it in the offering, the pastor’s box in the foyer, or hand it to any elder. We want our church to grow and have more influence for Jesus Christ. Thanks for helping us and working together with us!

My signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have any additional comments or questions, please jot them down here:*