

POLICY POSITION ON CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

MCCC welcomes everyone to our worship services, to become involved in our ministries and to join our Church congregation and family. A member of Mount Carmel Christian Church (MCCC) is defined as any person over the age of 16 who has signed or verbally affirmed the MCCC membership commitment after participating in the MCCC membership class (Join Mount Carmel). Individuals who were members of Mount Carmel Christian Church prior to 1995 and qualify as members in good standing will be considered “grandfathered” members.

A MCCC member in good standing has signed or verbally affirmed the MCCC membership commitment and has been present at Sunday services not less than one-half (1/2) of the previous 12 months or, in the case of new members, present at not less than one-half (1/2) of the Sunday services since making the commitment to MCCC membership.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

I believe in **JESUS** as **FORGIVER** and **LEADER**. And I commit to joining Mount Carmel in the pursuit of following the pattern set out in **ACTS 2:42-47**, which means I am committed to:

THE APOSTLES TEACHING: Learning the Bible so I can live out the Bible in my life.

FELLOWSHIP: I am a Jesus-disciple who makes Jesus-disciples.

BREAKING OF BREAD: I will gather with the church to be a part of the church.

PRAYER: I will regularly pray to be open to the lead of the Holy Spirit.

SERVE: I will serve within the church with my time, talents, and money, and I will represent the body of Christ in the way I serve my family, friends, workplace, and at large community

Our Non-Negotiable Beliefs

- ▶ We believe in one God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
(Matthew 5:16, 45; 6:1, 4, 8, 9; James 1:17 / John 1:1; 14:9 / Genesis 1:2; John 4:24; 14:16-20; 2 Peter 1:21)
- ▶ We believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of all things visible and invisible.
(Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:24-28; Hebrews 11:3)
- ▶ We believe in Jesus Christ, God's one and only Son, my one and only Savior.
(John 1:14; 1 John 4:9 / John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:18)
- ▶ Who was born Jesus of Nazareth, both fully human and fully divine, conceived of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary. (Matthew 21:11; John 19:19 / John 1:14; Romans 5:15-17; Colossians 2:9; 1 John 1:1 / Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:26-38)
- ▶ Who suffered and was crucified under Pontius Pilate. (Luke 23:1-46)
- ▶ Who died, was buried, and rose again bodily from the dead on the third day.
(Luke 23:44 - 24:8; John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8)
- ▶ Who ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of the Father.
(Luke 22:69; Acts 1:1-9; Colossians 3:1)
- ▶ Who will return to earth to judge both the living and the dead.
(Matthew 24:36-42; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:10-11; 10:39-42; 1 Peter 4:5)
- ▶ We believe in the Holy Spirit, Who is an active and operative part of the triune God.
(John 16:5-15; Acts 1:7-8; Romans 8:26-27)
- ▶ Who indwells every Christian. (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14)
- ▶ We believe in the Bible - God's Holy Word, Scripture. We believe God inspired the autographs (original writings) of the Scripture and those autographs were consequently without error.
(Mark 12:36; John 14:26; 16:12-15; Acts 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- ▶ We accept the Bible as the final authority for all matters of faith and practice.
(Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; 24:35; Romans 15:4; Hebrews 4:12)
- ▶ We believe the Bible teaches that man, created by God, willfully sinned against God and is consequently lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ. (Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23)
- ▶ We believe the Bible teaches that salvation and the forgiveness of sins is achieved only by grace through the blood of Jesus Christ.
(Matthew 26:28; Romans 5:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7)
- ▶ We believe the Bible teaches that one receives God's grace by putting faith in Christ, repenting of sin, confessing Christ, and being immersed into Christ, but that none of these is sufficient in and of itself for the assurance of salvation.

(Romans 5:1-2 / Luke 24:45-47; Acts 3:19; 17:30; 2 Peter 3:9 / Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9; Philippians 2:11; 1 John 4:15 / Acts 2:38; Romans 6:1-7; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21)

- ▶ We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ, founded on the Day of Pentecost and consisting of all Christians everywhere. (Matthew 16:13-18; Acts 2:14-47)
- ▶ We believe the Bible teaches that the Elders are to exercise authority over the local congregation. (Acts 20:28; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4)

MCCC membership demonstrates not only the commitment outlined above but membership also affords spiritual and practical benefits to the individual as well. Spiritual benefits (growth, peace, grace) can be obtained through discipleship and the many service and ministry opportunities offered at MCCC. These opportunities are outlined in the Join Mount Carmel (Membership) class and information packet.

The MCCC Bylaws provide clear expectations of conduct (ARTICLE II, Section 1. Individual Membership), membership removal and disciplinary recourse for members (Section 2. Termination of Membership), voting rights and privileges (Section 3.4 Voting), and also specifies that membership is required to assume a MCCC leadership position (Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Officers). MCCC Membership includes practical benefits which may not be made available to non-members - such as (to name a few): reduced fees for use of MCCC facilities for weddings; opportunity to plan and lead MCCC ministry activities; or, permission to carry a concealed weapon on MCCC church property.

Approved by the Elders: 1/ 27 / 2022