

MEMBERSHIP *Covenant*

Does church membership matter? We think it does. Read on to explore why, and consider if you're ready to become a member at Shores.

Genuine Community

The Bible calls believers "the body of Christ" and just like our own physical bodies have different parts which serve one another, the people of the church are to be committed to and engaged in serving the whole body as God gifts us and enables us. Just as your arm cannot decide it wants to be part of your body without being a committed member, our own membership to a local body (a church) is an important part of our spiritual commitment. The invitation to church membership is an invitation to connect yourself to the local church - the body of Christ - in a mutually beneficial way. Membership is declaration of mutual belonging. Are you ready to be part of a genuine community?

Pastoral Care

The Bible calls your pastor a "shepherd" and the body the "flock". Your pastor is accountable to God for your care. Your commitment to church membership is a vote of confidence - you're not just grazing alongside the flock, you're a part of the flock, entrusting yourself to your pastor's care.

Missional Commitment

Jesus gave his disciples - those present and those to come - a mission, and each local church body has a way of expressing it that reflects the community God has made them to be. Are you ready to commit to the mission of inviting others to experience the grace and compassion of Jesus Christ?

Having demonstrated evidence of repentance and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ and giving ourselves up to him, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, we do now, by God's mercy and grace, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other.

- We will work and pray for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- We will walk together in brotherly love, as becomes the members of a Christian Church, exercising an affectionate care and watchfulness over each other, and faithfully admonishing and entreating one another as occasion may require.
- We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor neglect to pray for ourselves and others.
- We will endeavor by a pure and loving example to seek the salvation of our family and friends.
- We will rejoice at each other's happiness and endeavor with tenderness and sympathy to bear each other's burdens and sorrows.
- We will seek, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live carefully in the world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, and remembering that, as we have been voluntarily buried by baptism and raised again from the symbolic grave, so there is on us a special obligation now to lead a new and holy life.
- We will work together for the continuance of faithful evangelical ministry in this church, as we sustain its worship, discipline, doctrines and the ordinances of baptism and communion.
- We will contribute cheerfully and faithfully, by the giving of tithes and offerings, to the support of the ministry, including the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

I testify to meeting the requirements for membership listed on the back side of this page and desire to enter into this covenant with the fellow members at Shores Fellowship Church.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

MEMBERSHIP *Application*

WHY
Membership
MATTERS

Requirements for Membership at Shores Fellowship Church

- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Give evidence of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and be baptized.
- Voluntarily subscribe to the Statement of Faith of Shores Fellowship Church.
- Agree to be governed by the Shores Fellowship Constitution and Bylaws.
- Attend a membership class and/or interview with the Pastor.

Once an application is submitted to the pastor for recommendation, the Board of Deacons reviews it. According to our Constitution & Bylaws, the decision for approval is at the sole discretion of the Deacons, whose decision shall be final.

Application for Membership

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street Address (if different): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ Month/Year of Baptism: _____

Please list me in the church directory.

Spouse, If Applicable *Complete the following section if you are married. This form does not include them in membership.*

Spouse's Name: _____ Anniversary: _____

Does your spouse consent to your membership? Yes No Have not discussed

Pastors Recommendation *Pastor will complete this section following your participation in the Membership Class and Membership interview.*

I recommend this candidate to the board of Deacons for membership at Shores Fellowship Church.

Pastor's Signature: _____ Date: _____



SHORES
FELLOWSHIP

Inviting you to experience the *grace*
and *compassion* of Jesus Christ.