



Becoming a Member

CALVARY MONUMENT BIBLE CHURCH
CHRIST / MISSION / BIBLE / COMMUNITY

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CALVARY MONUMENT BIBLE CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

When a person places his or her faith in Jesus Christ as Savior, he or she becomes a member of the *universal* Church, the body of believers around the world (1 Corinthians 12:12-13). One can only be included in the universal, or “invisible,” Church by trusting Jesus Christ, God’s Son, for salvation.

However, the Bible also speaks of *local* churches which God has ordained to operate as visible representations of the invisible Church. It is God who has established their operation, function, and teachings. Only those churches which subscribe to Biblical teachings and practices can be considered true local churches.

Each individual believer is responsible to join with a local church that maintains sound Biblical doctrines and practices. There are several reasons:

- to be equipped to serve Christ (Ephesians 4:12a)
- to develop a mature, Christ-like character (Ephesians 4:12b-13)
- to be exhorted and encouraged, along with other believers, to good works (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Other reasons could be added, but involvement in a Bible-teaching local church should result in telling the message of salvation both in our community and all around the world.

We are glad that you are considering becoming a member of Calvary Monument Bible Church. Membership requirements are described in the Constitution and Bylaws (the pertinent articles can be found in this booklet).

MEMBERSHIP

Constitution, Article V

Membership of this Church shall be composed of those individuals who profess a genuine born again experience through saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who have committed themselves to abide by this Constitution, the Doctrinal Statement, and the Bylaws, and who are accepted into membership by the Church as provided in the Bylaws.

A member of this Church may resign or terminate his or her membership at any time. The resignation needs to be in writing, signed, and delivered to the Board of Elders. A member shall understand however, that for Scriptural reasons, disciplinary proceedings may be continued as to a member notwithstanding a member's resignation or termination of membership.

Church membership may be revoked or suspended as provided for in the Bylaws.

Bylaws, Article III

Section 1: Definition of Membership and Membership Process

- 1. Member Definition.** Membership in this Church shall be composed of those individuals who profess a born-again experience through saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; who give assurance of their desire to grow in their Christian life; who attend regularly; who accept the Doctrinal Statement; and who willingly agree to support the Constitution and Bylaws of Calvary Monument Bible Church and are accepted into membership by vote of the Board of Elders.
- 2. Associate Member Definition.** Associate membership is for those who desire to fellowship with us while retaining regular membership in another church. Associate members are not eligible to vote or hold elective office. Associate members in this Church shall be composed of those individuals who profess a born-again experience through saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; who give assurance of their desire to grow in their Christian life; who accept the Doctrinal Statement; and who willingly agree to support the Constitution and Bylaws of Calvary Monument Bible Church.

- 3. Membership Process.** The individual who desires to become a member or associate member will give testimony of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ to members of the Board of Elders. At least two individuals, Elders or Pastors, must be present at this testimony. At a Board of Elders Meeting, regular or special, a motion will be made to accept or decline those interviewed for membership. A two-thirds affirmative vote will carry.
- 4. Membership File.** All names of those who are current and active members of Calvary Monument Bible Church will be kept in a membership file. This official record will be used to determine quorum numbers needed for congregational meetings of the members; to determine who is eligible to vote at said meetings; and who is eligible for office or Church positions requiring membership.

(See Bylaws, Article III, Section 2 for information on termination of membership.)

CHURCH COVENANT

Bylaws, Article II

Having been born again by the grace of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and having confessed our faith before others, we do in the presence of God and this Church enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We will endeavor to walk in the Spirit manifesting Christ-like love; rejoicing with each other and bearing each other's burdens and sorrows; exercising care for each other and admonishing and encouraging one another; and praying for one another.

We will endeavor to make disciples of Jesus Christ; to participate in public worship and the ordinances; to support the Church's doctrines and disciplines; to contribute to the support of this ministry with our time, money and talents, including caring for the poor and spreading the Gospel in keeping with Scripture.

We will seek the salvation of our family, friends, and those whom the Lord brings into our sphere of influence. We will endeavor to be an example of Christ to those under our care, nurturing and encouraging them to be fully developed followers of Christ.

We will remember that we have been called to live a new and holy life, putting off those things that displease and dishonor God, and putting on that which honors God and promotes personal holiness (Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:22-24).

We will, when we move from this place, as soon as possible unite with another Bible-believing church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

Constitution, Article IV

- 1. The Holy Scriptures** We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the complete and final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God breathed (Matthew 5:18; John 16:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21, 19). We believe the Scriptures are to be interpreted in their natural, grammatical, cultural, historical, and literal sense, revealing divinely determined dispensations or rules of life which define man's responsibilities in successive ages. These are not ways of salvation, but rather means by which God directs man according to his purpose (John 1:17; 1 Corinthians 9:17; 2 Corinthians 3:9-18; Galatians 3:13-25; Ephesians 1:10; Ephesians 3:2-10; Colossians 1:24-25; Hebrews 7:19; Revelation 20:2-6).
- 2. The Godhead** We believe in one Triune God, Creator of all things, eternally existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—equal in being, nature, power and glory, and having the same infinite attributes and perfections such as eternity, omnipresence, omniscience, and omnipotence (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 46:9, 10; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Hebrews 13:8).
- 3. The Person and Work of Christ**
 - a. We believe the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that he might reveal God and redeem sinful people (John 1:1-2, 14; Luke 1:35; John 14:9; 1 Peter 1:18, 19).
 - b. We believe the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross for all

mankind as a representative, substitutionary sacrifice. This atoning sacrifice is sufficient to redeem and justify all who trust in him. Christ's literal, physical resurrection from the dead assures that his sacrifice is sufficient (Romans 3:24-25; Romans 4:25; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Timothy 4:10; Hebrews 2:9; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 Peter 2:24 and 2 Peter 2:1).

- c. We believe the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our high priest, he fulfills the ministry of intercessor, and advocate (Acts 1:9-10; Romans 8:34; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 9:24; Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1-2).

4. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

- a. We believe the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; he is the supernatural agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Ephesians 1:13-14).
- b. We believe he is the divine teacher who guides believers into all truth, and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit (John 16:13; Ephesians 5:18; 1 John 2:20, 27).

5. The Total Depravity of Man We believe man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God, and of himself, is utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 3:22-23; Romans 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12).

6. Salvation We believe salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by genuine faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins (John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; Ephesians 2:8-10; 1 Peter 1:18-19).

7. The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers

- a. We believe that once saved, we are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 6:37-40; John 10:27-30; Romans 8:1, 38-39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; 1 Peter 1:5).
- b. We believe in the assurance of one's salvation and that this assurance should not encourage the use of Christian liberty to indulge the sinful nature (Romans 13:13-14; Galatians 5:13; Titus 2:11-15).

8. The Two Natures of the Believer We believe every saved person possesses two natures, with provision made for victory of the new nature over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit; all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural. We believe all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord (Romans 6:13; Romans 8:12-13; Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:10; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 John 3:5-9).

9. Missions We believe it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and word to the truths of Holy Scripture and to proclaim the gospel to all mankind (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:19-20).

10. The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts

- a. We believe God is sovereign in the bestowment of all his gifts; and that the gifts of evangelists, pastors, and teachers are sufficient for the perfecting of the saints today. As the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority established, sign gifts ceased to carry scriptural authority and are not normative for today and are subject to all the guidelines established in Scripture (1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:7-12).
- b. We believe God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accord with his own will, for the sick and afflicted (John 15:7; James 5:13-14; 1 John 5:14-15).

11. The Church

- a. We believe the church, which is the body and bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons of this present age (Ephesians 1:22-23; Ephesians 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2). We believe the church is distinct from national Israel, with whom God has made irrevocable covenants (Genesis 15; 17:7, 8; Romans 11; Hebrews 6:13-18).
- b. We believe that the church was established at Pentecost and continues as local churches. This is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 2:1, 40-47; Acts 14:27; Acts 20:17, 28-32; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9).
- c. We believe in the ordinances of believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper as scriptural means of testimony for the church age (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42; Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

12. The Nature of Satan We believe Satan is a created angelic being who rebelled against God and therefore sinned; he is the open and declared enemy of God and mankind; and he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire (Job 1:6-7; Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 4:1-11; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

13. The Second Advent of Christ We believe in the "Blessed Hope," the personal and imminent coming of our Lord in the air for his saints, initiating a seven-year period of tribulation, followed by the return of Christ with his saints to the earth to establish his millennial kingdom (Titus 2:11-14; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:9; Revelation 3:10; Daniel 9:27; Revelation 19:11-21; Zechariah 14:4-11; Revelation 20:1-6).

14. The Eternal State

- a. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all people: the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Matthew 25:46; John 5:28-29; John 11:25-26; Revelation 20:5-6, 12-13).

- b. We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord (Luke 23:43; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; Philippians 3:21; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Revelation 20:4-6).
- c. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting, conscious punishment and separation from God (Matthew 25:41-46; Luke 16:19-26; Mark 9:43-48; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Jude 1:6-7; Revelation 20:11-15).

**CALVARY MONUMENT BIBLE CHURCH
MEMBERSHIP RECORD**

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Last name _____ First name _____

2. Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

3. Marital status: Single Married Widow(er)
 Divorced Divorced/remarried
 Married to a divorced person

4. Your date of birth: ___/___/____

5. Spouse's name _____

Spouse's date of birth: ___/___/____

6. Children's names and birthdates: _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

1. Do you attend Calvary Monument Bible Church regularly and want to consider yourself a member of this Church?

Yes No

Are you a member of another church? Yes No

Name of other church _____

2. Do you agree with the Church's Doctrinal Statement and Church Covenant? Yes No

3. Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?
 Yes No

A. Give approximate date and place of conversion:

B. On what Scripture do you base your assurance of salvation? _____

C. When you were saved, did you:

1) Acknowledge that you were a sinner who could not save yourself by your works (Eph. 2:1-9)?
 Yes No

2) Accept by faith the gift of God, which is salvation through the finished work of Jesus Christ and His sufficient, substitutionary, blood-sacrifice on the cross of Calvary?
 Yes No

3) Receive eternal life through Jesus Christ the Lord?
 Yes No

4. Have you been baptized by immersion since conversion?
 Yes No

5. Do you support the Church and its ministry?
 Yes No

6. Have you read the Church's constitution and agree to abide by the doctrines and practices contained in it?
 Yes No

Signature_____

Date_____