

# CHRIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP FORM

(One per family please)

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

CELL PHONE[1](\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE[2](\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE [1](\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ -- \_\_\_\_\_ (zip + 4)

WORK PHONE [2](\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL[1] \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL[2] \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE   
  ENGAGED   
  MARRIED   
  DIVORCED   
  SEPARATED   
  WIDOWED.  
 (Marriage date \_\_\_\_\_)

Legal First & Middle Names (no nick names please)	Birth Date (mo/day/yr)	Baptized		
		Yes	No*	Date
[1]				
[2]				

*\*If you have not been baptized we will include Adult Baptism as part of the membership process.*

CHILDREN: (Please list all your children)	Birth Date	Baptism Date	Confirmation Date	Confessing Member	Not Joining

- PLEASE TURN OVER -

How long have you attended Christ Church? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you become acquainted with Christ Church? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why are you seeking membership at Christ Church of Oak Brook? \_\_\_\_\_

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Denomination: (Presbyterian, Catholic, Lutheran, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Service: (Teaching, media, childcare, counseling, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

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I have reflectively read the Covenant of Membership, and I gladly affirm it as a declaration of my own personal Christian Faith.

(1) Signed \_\_\_\_\_

I have reflectively read the Covenant of Membership, and I gladly affirm it as a declaration of my own personal Christian Faith.

(2) Signed \_\_\_\_\_

# CHRIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

## *What do we ask of church members?*

As a follower of Jesus Christ at Christ Church, I covenant to grow into the character and call of Christ through an intentional discipleship journey by *gathering* weekly with others to worship God and *going* to serve one another and the world by connecting to life-changing community, primarily where I live, work, and/or volunteer.

### **WORSHIP**

1. I humbly confess the guilt of my sin and place my trust in Jesus Christ alone for His forgiveness and salvation, pledging to follow Him as the Lord of all and of my life.
2. I affirm the doctrine of Christ Church as stated in the Membership booklet or online at [ChristChurch.us/beliefs](http://ChristChurch.us/beliefs) and commit to trying to live into the church's Discipleship Vision as described at [ChristChurch.us/discipleship](http://ChristChurch.us/discipleship).
3. I commit myself to worship weekly with the church family or as regularly as it is in my power to do.<sup>2</sup>

### **GROW**

4. I commit myself to grow in Christlikeness by taking intentional STEPs of faith. I will seek to...
  - Develop my SIGHT (vision) for the pathway of discipleship
  - Incorporate into my life spiritual TRAINING disciplines (e.g. prayer and study of God's Word)
  - Take advantage of classes, courses, and conferences that offer EQUIPMENT in the key principles and practices that empower me to live for Christ in daily life
  - Connect regularly with spiritual growth PARTNERS (e.g. a small group or midsize community) to encourage one another on the journey of discipleship.

### **SERVE**

6. I commit myself to the goal of contributing at least a tenth of my income (a "tithe") to the Lord's work, with a significant allocation supporting the ministry and mission of Christ Church.
7. I commit myself to discovering my gifts and passions in ministry and using them in one or more of the servant ministries of Christ Church.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> This covenant is a contemporary statement of Articles III and V of the *Constitution of Christ Church of Oak Brook*.

<sup>2</sup> The church offers through the internet livestreaming of Sunday services for those unable to be here in person.

# THINK ABOUT YOUR STORY

## Think about the story by which God has met and shaped you.

**We all have a story of faith in some way, shape, or form.** Our story reflects the distinct way we have experienced the touch of God.

- Some people have steadily grown into their faith from childhood.
- Others can point to a decisive turning point when they came to “believe” or “committed” to Christ.
- Others still have pursued a different spiritual path that merged onto the Way of Jesus.

**People also come to Christ for many reasons.** They may be brought to him through...

- a community of faith
- an experience of healing
- a journey of spiritual inquiry
- a season of pain
- a need of forgiveness
- or some other reason...

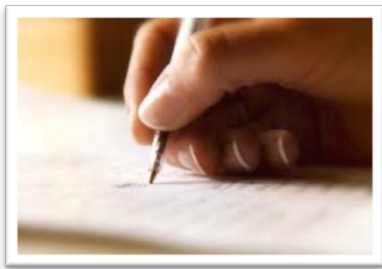
Some are still exploring the claims of Jesus, or what it even means to be a Christian. Each story is valid. Each tale continues to be written.

## Do you know your story? Can you tell it?

When you examine them closely, most people’s stories of faith have some or all of the components listed on the opposing page. We’ve supplied here a format that may be of help to you in describing how and why your faith has become or is becoming a reality.

1. Take some time to **jot down some notes** in each section, to the best of your ability.
2. THEN use these notes to **handwrite or type up your story** in two pages or fewer.
3. Please **bring your written story** (along with an extra copy) to the next *Journey With Us*.

Remember, GOD is the ultimate author of your story. This makes your story a *Masterpiece*.



*“Whoever acknowledges me before the world, I will acknowledge before my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 10:32)*

**CONTEXT: What shaped your values or concept of God before you became a disciple of Christ?**

Who were your role models for good or for ill? If you went to church, what was that like for you? Did God seem absent, distant, an occasional presence, or close to you? What did you hunger or hope for during the earlier part of your journey? What patterns or priorities hampered your life or hindered your relationship with God? In what did you put your faith -- your source of identity, security, or hope for fulfillment? If you've walked with Christ since childhood, were there ever moments when you got off track and struggled seriously with failure, guilt, doubt, fear, etc?

**CONVERSION: What has been the process by which you've come to center your life on Christ?**

Has it been more of a slow transformation, a sudden turning, or a season of awakening for you? Was there one decisive moment or a series of moments when God reached you? When did you wake up to the need for a significant change in your understanding of God, yourself, or the life He wants for you? What circumstances or people did God use to bring you to your senses? What were the questions or truths that God impressed on you? How did you come to see a providential pattern of grace reaching out to you? Who helped you take the most important steps?

**CONSEQUENCES: How is your life different today because of the impact of the Gospel on you?**

How does it feel to be right with God, knowing your sins are forgiven? How have you seen the Holy Spirit helping you overcome some of your character flaws? What are one or two areas in which God's truth has reset your course in life? Where do you see yourself now participating in God's mission to bring redemptive change to this world? How has knowing you will have life beyond the grave altered your experience of suffering and loss in this life? How have you felt God's love filling you or reshaping your relationships? What has being part of a community of faith meant to you?