

Membership Application



Living Faith Lutheran Brethren Church
805 14th Avenue SW Watford City, North Dakota
701-842-4617
www.livingfaithnd.org info@livingfaithnd.org

“I will build my church” Matthew 16:18
“Go ... make disciples” Matthew 28:19



Church membership means different things to different people.

- 1. To some being a member simply means that "I have selected this congregation as my 'church home'. I 'fit in' and feel I belong here."*
- 2. However, to others membership entails professing a statement of personal faith in Christ, affirming a congregational statement of faith, and formally committing oneself to the fellowship and ministry of a local group of believers.*

Either concept of church membership can work, but it is important to understand what your church means by the term church membership.

At Living Faith, membership is best understood in terms of the second definition mentioned above. It is therefore fitting that we use the term confessing membership. Members confess faith in Christ and with other members of the congregation, hold to a common confessional statement.

Baptized Children of the Congregation are also recognized as members of the congregation, who upon reaching confirmation age, may apply for Confessing Membership. Those who do not are recognized as Parishioners, together with others who call the congregation 'home', but are not ready to commit to being a Confessing Member.

For further information, consult articles 5 of the constitution and article 2 of the bylaws.

What does confessing membership at Living Faith mean?

- 1. You profess faith in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior; that is, you trust Him alone for the forgiveness of your sins; you do not trust in your religious activities or your moral behavior to make you right with God.*

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- 1. You want to be known as a Christian and want to be identified with this group of believers.*
- 2. Your beliefs are in harmony with the Confession of Faith of the congregation.*
- 3. You are willing to support and encourage the leaders of the congregation as they carry out their respective duties in harmony with the Word of God. You are willing to support and encourage the leaders of the congregation as they carry out their respective duties in harmony with the Word of God.*
- 4. You will be eligible to vote at congregational meetings and thus be part of setting the course for ministry at Living Faith.*
- 5. You may be eligible to hold certain offices of responsibility and leadership for which membership is required.*
- 6. You are a committed member of a community about which you care, and which is committed to caring for you.*

What are the responsibilities of confessing membership?

- 1. To regularly receive the gift of God's Word at worship services, The Lord's Supper, and through Christian Education.*
- 2. To serve within the ministries of the congregation according to one's spiritual gifts and abilities in order to fulfill Christ's great commission - to make disciples.*
- 3. To support the church financially as the Lord has prospered you.*
- 4. To pray for the pastor(s) and leaders of the congregation and for the welfare of the congregation.*
- 5. To care for the other members of the church family by praying for them, and by showing the love of God to them in tangible ways.*

Membership Application



Name _____

Telephone: _____ Email _____

Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Date of Baptism _____

Place of Baptism _____
Congregation/City/Pastor

Date of Confirmation (or completion of membership course) _____

Place of Confirmation _____
Congregation/City/Pastor

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Family Status *Single Married Widowed Separated Divorced*

Date of Marriage (if currently married) _____

If you are a parent, please list the members of your family under the age of 18:

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Baptism	Place of Baptism
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Do you desire that these children be admitted to membership with you as Baptized Children of the Congregation? **Yes No**

When completed submit to the pastor or an elder

Are you presently a member of any church? **Yes No**

If so, which one? _____

City/State _____

Have you left behind any unresolved conflicts? **Yes No**

Are you presently a member of any lodge or secret society? **Yes No**
(eg. Masonic Order)

Have you read the constitution of Living Faith Church? **Yes No**

Do you accept the constitution, and are you willing to abide by it? **Yes No**

Are you in agreement with the Statement of Faith within it? **Yes No**

Will you follow and support the church's elected leadership? **Yes No**

Are you open and willing to receive biblical counsel, correction and encouragement? **Yes No**

Will you seek to grow in your own faith in Christ and seek to encourage others in theirs by faithfully taking part in times of worship, teaching, and fellowship? **Yes No**

Will you support the work of the Lord at and through Living Faith in accordance with the financial resources God gives you? **Yes No**

Will you serve the Lord with your abilities, spiritual gifts and time as a partner in the ministry of the Gospel at Living Faith? **Yes No**

Office Use -----

Date Application Received _____

Elders' Review and Recommendation _____

Date Received into Membership _____

Share a bit about your life with Christ and your desire to serve Him

1. *Have you come to the point in your spiritual life where you are confident that God has forgiven your sin and you have a good relationship with Him?*

2. *Suppose you were to stand before God and He were to ask you, "Why should I let you into my presence?" What would you say? (In other words, upon what do you base your assurance of a good relationship with God and your hope of spending eternity with Christ?)*

3. *Please share a little of your story. How did you come to the assurance that you are forgiven and have eternal life? If you're not sure, please share what prevents you from having that assurance.*

4. *What are some of the gifts and talents that God has given you? In which ways would you like to serve Christ as part of your life in the Living Faith family?*