



Membership Resource Guide

The local church serves as an embassy of God's Kingdom on earth, which is why membership is a declaration and expression of Kingdom citizenship. When a person chooses to follow Jesus as their Lord and Savior, they are immediately given a new identity in Christ and adopted into the Father's Heavenly family. This adoption subsequently calls people to be members in the household of God. Here at Harvest Ministries of Denton County (here on out referred to as "Harvest Ministries"), a Kingdom citizen has the responsibility and privilege to represent Christ and a local church to our community-at-large.

Vision

A vision is the ultimate goal we believe God is leading us to. Our vision is as follows:
We exist to see life transformation in Christ to develop godly leaders in our community who harvest ministries where they are. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7; Galatians 6:9; Ephesians 3:20-21)

Mission

A mission is simply what we do in order to achieve our vision. Our mission is as follows:
To love God and all people while preparing everyone to boldly follow Christ. (Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19-20; Ephesians 4:12-13; 1 Peter 3:15)

Values

Values are the "things" that ignite us to be on fire for Jesus and aid us in living out our God-given purpose. Our four values are listed below.

- **Bold Faith** - Demonstrated by intentionally modeling Christ and sharing His timeless truths of the gospel with others without compromise in order to transform lives so Heaven will be standing room only. (Acts 4:29-31; 1 Peter 3:15; Jude 3)
- **Unconditional Love** - Demonstrated by living out a pure, willful, and sacrificial love that's grace-filled and God-honoring while going out of our way to intentionally love and serve others well. (Matthew 22:37-39; Luke 19:10; John 3:16-17; Romans 5:8)
- **Servant Leadership** - Demonstrated by lovingly putting others before ourselves through irresistible acts of service in order to meet physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs. (Mark 10:45)
- **Kingdom Multiplication** - Demonstrated by developing and equipping godly leaders and church planters through discipleship and training to reproduce generations into eternity. (Matthew 28:19-20; Book of Acts; Ephesians 4:12-13)



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Beliefs

Beliefs are things we consider to be our sources of truth, which come from God. Please read our statement of faith at harvestministries.org/beliefs. By being a member at Harvest Ministries, you agree to the beliefs described in our statement of faith.

Spiritual Formation

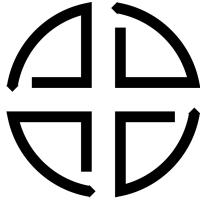
Our goal isn't to gather for the sake of gathering but to be formed into the image of Christ. In order for that to happen, one must go through spiritual formation, which is a lifelong journey. We see that through a process called discipleship, which is simply learning to live like and with Jesus and done in community with other followers of Christ. We see this realized in three parts:

- *Life Transformation in Christ (e.g. salvation, baptism, communion)*
- *Godly Leadership (e.g. service, giving)*
- *Harvesting Ministries (i.e. reaching people inside and outside the church)*

Harvest Ministries Member Expectations

We are all a work in progress and understand striving to be more like Christ is a daily journey. Church membership is an active pursuit to be more like Christ through the connection of a local church. That active pursuit is realized in the following ways:

- Willing submission to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Scriptures, and the leadership of the church. This includes following the command and example of Jesus by participating in Believer's baptism. For more on this, please read our statement of faith at harvestministries.org/beliefs.
- Active participation in the spiritual formation of self and others through biblical practices and disciplines (e.g. prayer, fasting, Bible study, service, giving, etc.).
- Stewardship of gifts of the Holy Spirit as well as time, talents, and finances. This includes regular tithing, serving, and participation in community cheerfully and voluntarily.
- Attend and/or volunteer at major and minor Harvest Ministries functions. Major functions include but are not limited to Sunday church services, Vacation Bible School, and large community events hosted by Harvest Ministries.
- Be actively engaged with other Harvest Ministries members consistently beyond Sunday gatherings as an act of love and accountability to one another.



HARVEST MINISTRIES

Membership Covenant

Harvest Ministries Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized, and being in agreement with Harvest Ministries statements, strategy, and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Harvest Ministries family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members in active pursuit of the following:

GLORIFY - WE RECOGNIZE GOD THROUGH WORSHIP, OUR GLORIFIED KING. (*Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14–17; 1 Peter 1:13–16, 4:1–3; 2 Peter 1:19–21*)

- a. *Worship* - Praises God regularly on their own and participates in corporate worship.
- b. *Prayer* - Regularly communicates with God through prayer individually and corporately.

GATHER - WE GATHER WITH GOD'S FAMILY THROUGH FELLOWSHIP FOR DEEP CONNECTION. (*Acts 2:42–47; Romans 8:13; Ephesians 4:1-3; Colossians 3:5; 1 Timothy 3; 5:17; Titus 1:5-16; 3:14; Hebrews 10:23–25; 13:17; James 5:16, 1 Peter 5:5; 1 John 1:6–10*)

- a. *Cluster* - Connects with others in group settings (e.g. Bible study, life group).
- b. *Accountability* - Encourage one another in the development of purity and integrity.
- c. *Family* - Understands and practices the biblical responsibilities of their family role.

GROW - WE EDUCATE GOD'S PEOPLE THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP SO THEY CAN GROW SPIRITUALLY. (*Psalm 141:5; Matt 3:13-17; 18:15–20; 28:19; Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 5:9–13; 8:1–13; 9:24– 27; Ephesians 5:1–21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12–22; Hebrews 12:5–11*)

- a. *Salvation* - Has made a personal decision by grace through faith to trust in Christ as Lord and Savior.
- b. *Baptism* - Has been baptized as a public expression of the decision to follow Christ.
- c. *Spiritual Gifts* - Has learned about spiritual gifts, assessed own gifting, and put gifting into practice.
- d. *Biblical Literacy* - Desires to understand, agree with, and apply biblical truths.
- e. *Intimacy* - Pursues a relationship with Christ daily through spiritual disciplines.
- f. *Discipleship* - Open to being disciplined while striving to reproduce other fully devoted followers of Christ.

GIVE - WE SHOW GOD'S LOVE THROUGH MINISTRY BY THE GIVING OF OUR TIME, TALENTS, AND RESOURCES. (*Malachi 3:10; Matthew 25:14–30; Romans 12:1–2; 2 Corinthians 8–9; 1 Peter 4:10–11*)

- a. *Service* - Demonstrates a servant-minded attitude.
- b. *Generosity* - Consistently practices giving financially to support the needs of the church.
- c. *Ministry* - Serving others in the church, particularly in their area of spiritual gifting.
- d. *Leadership* - Leads others with the expectation that they too will become leaders themselves.
- e. *Investment* - Invests increasing amounts of time, attention, and resources towards the cause of Christ.

GO - WE SHARE GOD'S WORD THROUGH EVANGELISM, WHICH IS THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST. (*Acts 2:42-47, Matthew 22:37-40; 28:18-20*)

- a. *Connect* - Intentionally builds relationships with everyday people outside of the church.
- b. *Communicate* - Share one's own personal testimony and the gospel message.
- c. *Invite* - Actively brings others to weekend services and special events.
- d. *Mission* - Contributes personally to meeting the needs of the poor and other marginalized people in society.

I am interested in serving in the following areas (mark 'X' for all the apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest Kids Check-in | <input type="checkbox"/> Care / Prayer / Benevolence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest Kids Classroom Volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Singer / Musician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mobilization (Setup / Teardown) | <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Production (Audio / Visual / Graphics) | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing / Social Media / Creative Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality (Greeter / Usher / Coffee / Parking) | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach / Missions / Evangelism | <input type="checkbox"/> Wherever I'm Needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster Leader / Host Home (Life Groups) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Printed Name (Member)

Date

Signature (Member)

Printed Name (Church Representative)

Date

Signature (Church Representative)