

Article IV Membership

Definitions:

MEMBER – Any individual listed on the membership rolls of Central Baptist Church.

ACTIVE MEMBER – Any individual listed on the membership rolls of Central Baptist Church that actively participates through regular attendance at any service of the Church.

INACTIVE MEMBER – Any individual listed on the membership rolls of Central Baptist Church that has not attended any service of the Church within the previous six months.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

The membership of Central Baptist Church shall consist of individuals:

- Who have made a public profession of their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord;
- AND desire to be numbered among His disciples;
- AND subscribe to and agree with the “Articles of Faith” and practices of this church;
- AND have experienced scriptural baptism by full emersion in this church or in a church of like faith and order;
- AND have been received into the Central Baptist fellowship by three-fourths vote of the active membership in attendance at any regular service.

Process for Membership:

1. All candidate(s) for membership shall be examined by the Pastor as having adopted the “Articles of Faith” and practices of Central Baptist Church set forth in this document,
2. All candidate(s) must sign the “Church Membership Application,” agreeing to the Articles of Faith.
3. The candidate(s) will then be presented before the members of this church body for confirmation of reception during the invitation of any service of the church by:
 - a. letter of membership transfer from another church of like faith and order,
 - b. statement of faith,
 - c. or baptism.
4. Membership confirmation shall be by a three-fourths voice vote of present active members in favor of reception.

The Church shall have the sole right to determine qualifications for membership.

Members of this church are **expected** to support the church program(s) as long as they are active members of the church. Such support shall be evidenced through regular attendance at regularly scheduled services, Sunday School, and special programs as they arise. The members shall also support the church through regular and frequent prayer for the services, staff, and leadership as well as systematic Biblical giving of finances and time.

DISMISSAL OF MEMBERSHIP

A person may be removed from the membership roll by:

- a) Death of the member.
- b) Written request by the member to the church clerk. *
- c) Letter of request of membership transfer from another church of like faith and order. *
- d) Church Discipline: In cases where a member becomes unwilling to place themselves under the authority of the Word of God, that member shall be disciplined by the church staff. In all cases, the model found in the New Testament shall be followed (Matthew 18:15-18, 1 Corinthians 5:1-13, 2 Corinthians 2:5-8, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15, James 5:19-20).
- e) Habitual absence from the Sunday morning worship service (Hebrews 10:25; Acts 20:7). **
 - i. An active member will be moved to an inactive status following six months of absence from all church services.
 - ii. The inactive church member will re-gain active status after having an attendance rate of 75% for Sunday morning worship service for three consecutive months.
 - iii. The membership of any individual may be removed with appropriate notice if the member in question has not attended any regular church service in the preceding twelve months.

* The church clerk shall present the request for removal to church body in the next regularly scheduled business meeting following receipt of the request. If approved, the Church Clerk shall notify the appropriate church/person of the action taken.

** The pastor may choose to waive these provisions (subsection "d" above) if, in his discretion, there is good cause to do so.

** College students, military personnel, shut-ins, missionaries, evangelists, and/or others who are legitimately unable to regularly attend services, will be exempt from dismissal of membership.