NAME:_____ DATE:_____

Horizon Christian Fellowship of La Crosse Volunteer Application with HCF & CC Distinctives

I. **THE PURPOSE OF THIS APPLICATION** is that we might get to know one another, and through prayer seek God's direction on how we can serve together in unity. We believe it is very important for the health of this body of believers that we serve together in unity of vision, beliefs, and character. "Can two walk together unless they are agreed?" **(Amos 3:3)**.

II. **VISION**

WIN – A person to Jesus **– (Mark 16:15)**

DISCIPLE – A person in Jesus **– (Matthew 28:19-20, Ephesians 4:11-12)**

SEND – A person for Jesus **– (Acts 1:8)**

***We believe that the 4 legs on which the ministry of the church stands on is given to us in Acts 2:42,** "And they continued steadfastly in the **apostles' doctrine (Word),** and **fellowship**, in the **breaking of bread**, and in **prayers**."

The Horizon Serving Mindset

- We desire to be Mary-type servants, sitting at the feet of Jesus, overflowing with love and joy, instead of Martha-types who are burnt out and frustrated (Luke 10:38-42). For this reason, we would like those who are serving weekly to attend the opposite service to get fed and encouraged in the Word.

- All service should be done with a cheerful heart (2 Corinthians 9:7) for any begrudging service would dishonor the Lord. If you are in a season where committed service in the Body is something you cannot do cheerfully, it is ok to step back, let us serve you, love on you, and feed you the Word until your cup overflows again.

- We believe the saying "many hands make light work". Thus, in a healthy Body where God's people are being equipped through the teaching of the Word (Ephesians 4:11-12, 2 Timothy 3:16-17), ***every*** part of a healthy church Body should be sharing their giftings, because they have been blessed in Christ (Ephesians 1:3), and should do their part as in a healthy physical body. "From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in

love. (Ephesians 4:16)" As the Body shares our blessings with one another, we in turn get to experience the blessings ourselves (John 13:17, Acts 20:25).

- What do we believe this will accomplish? We pray this will allow for more fruitful service in those serving. We pray it will eliminate burn-out for anyone serving. We pray it will build better serving relationships with more consistency in each ministry. We pray it will keep the yolk easy and the burden light for all serving (Matthew 11:28-30). Most of all, we pray that it will allow us to fulfill the Great Commission, as no one person can do so, but the whole Body working together by the power of the Holy Spirit. We pray that more people will be won to Christ (Mark 16:15), that more people will be discipled in Christ (Matthew 28:19-20), and that more people will be sent for Christ (Acts 1:8).

Statement Of Faith

We believe - the only true basis of Christian fellowship is Christ's (Agape) love, which is greater than any differences we possess, and without which we have no right to claim ourselves Christians. -- 1 Jn. 3:14; 4:7-11; 1 Cor. 13:1-8; Gal. 5:22-23; Jn. 13:34-35; 15:12-13; 1 Pet. 4:8; Rom. 13: 8-10; 14:19

We believe - worship of God should be inspirational. Therefore, we give a great place to music in our worship. -- Ps. 33:1-3; 95:1-2; 100:1-2; 147:1; 150:3-6; 2 Chron. 5:11-14; Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:18-19

We believe - worship of God should be intelligent. Therefore, our services are designed with great emphasis upon the teaching of the Word of God that He might instruct us how He should be worshipped. -- Jn. 4:23-24; Rom 12:1-2; Neh. 8:8; Acts 2:42; 1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 4:2; Ps. 19:7-8; 119:7; Col. 3:16

We believe - worship of God should be fruitful. Therefore, we look for His love in our lives as the supreme manifestation that we have been truly worshipping Him. -- Jn. 15:5, 8-12; James 2:18-20; Mt. 5:16; 7:16-20; Col. 1:9-10; Rom. 6:22; 12:9-13; Gal. 5:22-23

We believe - in the inerrancy of the Scriptures, that the Bible, Old and New Testaments, in the original autographs, is the inspired, infallible Word of God, a complete and final written revelation of God. -- 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Heb. 1:1-2; Ps. 12:6; 19:7-9; 119:160; Pr. 30:5; Jn. 17:17; Mt. 5:18; Gal. 1:11-12; Acts 20:27

We believe - in one personal, transcendent, and holy God, the creator of all, who is eternal, and who manifests Himself in three separate persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. -- Deut. 6:4; Is. 45:5-6; Ps. 24:1-2; 145:18; Mt. 3:16-17; 6:9; Is. 6:1-3; 1 Kings 8:27; Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:16-18; Jn. 1:1-3; 14:16-17; 2 Cor. 13:14

We believe - that Jesus Christ, though fully God, became a man for the suffering of death, that He is the promised Messiah, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, provided for the atonement of our sins by His vicarious death on the Cross, was bodily resurrected by the power of the Holy Spirit, ascended back to the right hand of God the Father, and ever lives to make intercession for us. -- Jn. 1:1-3, 14; Col. 2:9; Heb. 1:8; 2:14-17; 4:15; 7:25; Jn. 4:25-26; 20:28; Phil. 2:6-8; 1 Tim. 2:5; Is. 7:14; 9:6-7; 53:3-6; 1 Pet. 2:22; 1 Jn. 3:5; Rom. 5:8-9; 1 Cor. 15:3-8, 20; Acts 1:9-11

We believe - after Jesus ascended to Heaven, He poured out His Holy Spirit on the believers in Jerusalem, enabling them to fulfill His command to preach the Gospel to the entire world, an obligation shared by all believers today. -- Jn. 14:16-17; 16:17-18;
Luk 24:49; Acts 1:4-5, 8; 2:1-4, 33, 38-39; Eph. 4:8-10; 5:18; Joel 2:28-29; Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15; Rom 8:14-17; Gal. 5:25

We believe - that all people are by nature separated from God and responsible for their own sin, but that salvation, redemption, and forgiveness are freely offered to all by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. When a person repents of sin and accepts Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, trusting Him to save, that person is immediately born again and sealed by the Holy Spirit, all his/her sins are forgiven, and that person becomes

a child of God. -- Rom. 3:10, 23; 5:1, 12; 6:23; 8:1; 10:9-10; 14:12; Is. 59:1-2; Ezek. 18:20; Eph. 1:7, 13-14; 2:1-3, 8-9; Ps. 51:5; 103:10-12; Jn. 1:12; 3:3-7, 16; Tit. 3:4-7; 1 Tim. 2:3-6; Acts 2:38; Col. 1:13-14; 1 Jn. 1:7-9

We believe - in the person and work of the Holy Spirit who indwells, seals, and empowers every believer, baptizing them into the Body of Christ. We further believe that the Holy Spirit will come upon any believer who asks in faith, enabling him/her to preach the Gospel in power. We also believe all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned in the Scriptures are valid for today if they are exercised within the scriptural guidelines. We believe that love is more important than all the gifts, and that without this love all exercise of spiritual gifts is worthless. -- Jn. 14:16-17; Rom. 8:9-11; 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 12:4-13, 31; 13:1-13; 14:26, 33, 40; Gal. 4:6; 5:22; Eph. 1:13-14; 3:16; 4:4-6, 11-12; 30; 5:18; 2 Cor. 1:21-22; Acts 1:8; 4:31; Zech. 4:6; 1 Thes. 1:5; 1 Pet. 4:10-11; Col. 3:14

We believe - Jesus Christ is the head of the Body, His church, and that church government should be simplistic rather than a complex bureaucracy. We desire to be led by the Holy Spirit in all the functions and directions of the ministry of the church. -- Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:15-16; 5:23; Mt. 16:18; 20:25-28; 1 Cor. 12:12-27; Mk. 10:42-45; 1 Pet. 5:2-3; Acts 14:23; Jn. 16:13; Rom 8:14; Gal. 5:25; Col. 2:18-10; Prov. 16:9; Ps. 127:1; Zech. 4:6

We believe - in a personal devil called Satan who, along with all his evil angels, called demons, is destined to spend eternity in hell, and who now seeks to deceive the believers and defeat the work of God, but who can be resisted by believers who are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, protected by God, and interceded for by Jesus Christ our Lord. -- Job 1:6-7; Mt. 4:1-11; 25:41; Rev. 12:3-4, 9-10; 20:1-3, 10; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; Eph. 6:11-12; Is. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-17; Jn. 8:44; James 4:7; 1 Jn. 3:8; 4:4; Rom. 8:9-11; Heb. 2:14-15; 7:25

We believe - that the nation of Israel has a special place in God's plan and that all the promises of God to Israel will be fulfilled. -- Gen. 12:1-3; 15:18-21; Ex. 19:5-6; Deut. 7:6-8; Ps. 105:8-11; Ezek. 36:42-48; 37:21-28; Amos 9:14-15; Mal. 3:6; Micah 5:2; Rom. 11:1-2; 11:25-29; Zech. 12:10; Mt. 19:28

We await - the pre-tribulation rapture of the church, and we believe that the second coming of Christ with His saints to rule on the earth will be personal, pre-millennial, and visible. This motivates us to holy living, heartfelt worship, committed service, diligent study of God's Word, regular fellowship, and participation in baptism by immersion and in the Holy communion. -- 1 Thes. 1:10; 3:13; 4:16-17; 5:9; Jn. 14:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; Phil. 3:20-21; Rev. 1:7; 3:10; Luk 21:36; 22:19-20; Acts 1:9-11; 2:42; Zech. 14:4, 9; Jude 1:14-15; Rev. 19; 20:1-6; Is. 9:6-7; 1 Jn. 3:2-3; 2 Pet 3:11-14

We seek - to teach the Word of God in such a way that its message can be applied to an individual's life, leading that person to greater maturity in Christ. -- James 1:22-25; Mt. 7:24-27; Luk 11:28; Neh. 8:8; 1 Tim. 4:13, 16; 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 2:2; Rom. 8:29; Gal. 4:19; Eph. 4:11-15; Heb. 4:12; Jn. 17:17; Mt. 28:19-20

We reject - doctrinal viewpoints or spiritual phenomena which are based solely on experience. We look to the Word of God for the basis of all our faith and practice. --
2 Tim. 3:16-17; Ps. 19:7; 119:105; Mt. 4:4; Col. 2:8; 1 Thes. 5:20-21; Deut. 13:1-3; Gal. 1:8-9; Mt. 24:24; Rom. 10:17; Prov. 3:5-6; Eph. 4:14-15; Rev. 22:18-20

- MORALITY – "We Believe that anyone serving at HCF/The Resting Grounds should have a biblical standard of morality. We believe that people serving in the church should hold to the biblical standard of (1 Timothy 3) for elders and deacons (servants, ministers). We believe that all divisiveness, immorality, drug use, or alcohol abuse should be dealt with immediately in hopes of correction and restoration."

    - I AGREE WITH THE ABOVE **STATEMENT OF FAITH**: **YES [ ]or NO [ ]**

If **No** please explain:

READING

"CALVARY CHAPEL DISTINCTIVES" on the website or purchase/borrow a copy from the office. We do not believe we are better than every other church body out there, we simply recognize that there are biblical distinctives that make us the part of the Body of Christ that we are. This is your opportunity to get to know us and our core ministry values.

Write a brief review of each chapter. Do you have any questions, anything newly learned or any disagreements that you would like to discuss with a pastor?

1. INTRODUCTION –

2. CHAPTER 1 –

3. CHAPTER 2 –

4. CHAPTER 3-

5. CHAPTER 4 –

6. CHAPTER 5 –

7. CHAPTER 6 –

8. CHAPTER 7 –

9. CHAPTER 8 –

10. CHAPTER 9 –

11. CHAPTER 10 –

12. CHAPTER 11 –

13. CHAPTER 12 –

The Distinctives Of Horizon - "Hills Worth Dying On"

THIS IS NOT our statement of faith, instead this helps define the positions and motivations that make HCF distinct from other portions of the body of Christ.
We have our statement of faith on our website and volunteer application.
These 13 Distinctives are positions we take a stand on here at Horizon Christian Fellowship.
The phrase "Hills Worth Dying On" originates from military strategy, where holding a specific, high-ground position is crucial enough to justify heavy casualties.
(2Timothy 1:13-14) – "*Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.*"

Horizon La Crosse, a distinct ministry

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.
1 Corinthians 12:4-6 NKJV

- As our "Identity in Christ"(2Cor 5:17) is important, so it is for a local church (1Tim 3:15)

- Referring to bible believing, born again bodies of believers; we are one body, but distinct ministries . . . "If Calvary Chapel (Horizon) is exactly like the church across the street, it would be better to simply merge the two. But if there are distinctives that make it different, then it has a unique and special place in the plan of God."(cc Distinctives pg. 5)
    - (i.e.) different families live in different homes, not opposed- just different

- We are a non-denominational church but we are associated (by choice) with "Calvary Chapel Association" in which a relational bond of likeminded ministry is formed for encouragement and accountability.

- We are an autonomous local church - at my departure from Indy, my sending pastor, Bill encouraged me not to put new wine into old wineskins . . .(Matthew 9:17)

The Distinctives

View & Listen Online at horizonlacrosse.org/distinctives or on the app in "About Us"
(We have already linked many messages related to the distinctive topics, with many more to come as we continue to go through the Word Verse by Verse.)

1. **A call to the Ministry** – (1 Timothy 3, Acts 6:1-7)
    a. Who calls? – (Gal 1:1) – A minister is qualified not by education, not by will, not by the will of others, not motivated by a job, paycheck etc. but by God.
        i. Our goal for you is (Acts 13:1-5, Ps 32:8).
        ii. We simply agree with God in laying on of hands (1Tim 5:22-25)

(Note: We will generally not allow service until after 4-6 months of attending HCF, we want to get to know you, for you to know us and to be sure you are resting in the Lord. For if you cannot rest you will not serve from an overflow and that would be detrimental to you and us).

iii. How do you know? (Jer 20, 1 Cor 9:16).

iv. Also, each believer is called to a local church body (1 Cor 12:18)

What is Ministry? – (Mark 10:42-45, John 13).

v. If anyone thinks ministry is a pulpit, title, office, or job, a means to feel needed, or to be noticed by men(Mt 6), a have to instead of a get to, or is above any task we care very little to have them serve here at HCF.

2. A Simple church Model - (Book of Acts – (Rev 2:1-7)

Not History but "Original Design"(Like the telephone game, we don't look to church history to define our model, we look to the original message laid in Acts)

1. (The Book of Acts) – grid for our leadership

ii. The early church was a "simple" and Dynamic church(Acts 2:46)

1. (Acts 2:1-4) – Initiator of a simple church
2. (Acts 2:42) – The foundation of a simple church stands on 4 legs: Teaching of The Word, Fellowship, Breaking of bread and Prayer.
3. (Acts 2:43-47) – Overflowing practice of a simple church.
4. (Acts 2:47) – The result of a simple church.
5. (Acts 4:13) – Simple people God uses in a simple church.
6. (Acts 6:1-7) – Growth of a simple church.
7. (Acts 13:1-4) – Missions in a simple church.

iii. Distinctives – "The Divine Ideal is in the book of Acts . . . It's a church that is led by the Spirit, teaches the Word, and develops oneness or fellowship (koinonia). It's a church that breaks bread together and prays together. The rest is His work-He will add to the church daily those that should be saved." And the GOAL (Acts 3) –In contrast to the simple church ". . . taking the credit or receiving applause. That's the shortest path to the end of the anointing of God's Spirit"

3. Church Government – Jesus is the Head of His church - (Col 1:18)

"Church government should be simplistic rather than a complex bureaucracy".

a. **(episkopos) = 1Tim 3:1** pastor led – the rule of an individual pastor, elder, Bishop.
   i. Problem, man can't lead men well on his own, centralized unchecked power.
b. **(presbyteros) = Acts 14:23** elder board – the rule of a group of men "voting on things" etc.
   i. Problem, the pastor can become a hireling, hired by the board and directed by the board to do a "job". Again, men don't rule men well.
c. **(Congregational) = Exodus 16:2, Num 14:1-3, Corinth?** Where the congregation rules things never goes well, sheep don't direct shepherds.
d. **(Theocracy) – (Col 1:18), Exodus 18, Numbers 11, Exodus 17:12-14) God's Goal for the early church -** Moses, Israel and the NT Ideal is a hybrid of (episkopos) and (presbyteros) lead by the Head(Jesus). – "I believe God's model is that the pastor is ruled over by the Lord and recognized by the congregation as God's anointed instrument to lead the church, with the board guiding and directing. Complimenting this is the role of the assisting pastors. They are there to minister to the spiritual needs of the people on a daily basis.

i. Practically at HCF – far as I can see, Jesus wanted to plant HCF in La Crosse, God has called me (Matt) to serve here(1Cor 1:26), We have an elder board of Godly men that serve HCF spiritually, hold me accountable, lift my arms and help me discern God's will for HCF, and I don't make big, or financial decision unless we are in agreement, or can concede.
ii. Turn the power pyramid upside down - (Mk 10:42-45)

e. We do believe in <u>strong, servanthood, male leadership,</u> - - at HCF women will not be elders, nor teach scripture over men. . . (1Cor 11, 1Tim 2-3, Eph 5) This is not about ability nor value but simply obeying the Word of God. We see in Titus 2 women are to teach other women and children

f. <u>Deacons</u> - 1 Timothy 3 gives qualifications for both elders and deacons, character first . . .
   i. Eph 4:11-12 – though we have people who function officially, we avoid titles, and believe every believer ought to be a deacon, HCF is not a one man band (1Cor 12). . . "God doesn't need you but we do".

g. "No church membership" – There is one body (1Cor 12), you are God's people (Acts 20), and you can only be born into it (John 3), it is a spiritual relationship, not a political one.

h. **NOTE: as a Theocracy we believe it is of utmost importance that every believer have an autonomous individual, abiding relationship with Jesus Christ (John 15:1-5) hears the voice of God and searches the Scriptures (Acts 17:11) and God will direct all of this in unity (1Cor 12). . . In a perfect world like Moses I would heartily say (Numbers 11:29) – "Then Moses said to him, "Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the LORD'S people were prophets and that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them all"**

4. **<u>Empowered by the Spirit</u>** – (Acts 1:4-8) – We are Charismatic **not** Charis-maniac
   a. We believe in the empowering of the Spirit at or subsequent to salvation for service (John 14:17, John 20:22, Acts 1, 2, 8, 9, 10-11, 19). = Para, en, epi
   b. We believe the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for today, and necessary as the Scripture never says they will pass away (Acts 2:39, Acts 28, 1Cor 12-13) but that they should be done decently and in order (1Cor 12-14). 1 Corinthians 14:40 Says "Let all things be done" **AND** "decently and in order"
   c. We do not emphasize experience over Truth, instead Truth will produce experience.
   d. The greatest evidence is (Gal 5:22) Love, (John 7:37-38) an overflow.
   e. "I am most grateful for this promise, because when it comes to our next point it takes all the stress off of us. (Zechariah 4:6 Not by might, nor by power but by My Spirit says the LORD of hosts)"

5. **<u>Building the Church God's Way –</u>** We believe the Church, including HCF, is God's invention, plan, and work not ours – (Matthew 16:18, Psalm 127, 1Cor 3:6-7).

a. We aren't motivated by numbers but fruit, we don't count heads – (2Sam 24)
b. CC Distinctives - " . . . . a relaxed casual style. There isn't a lot of spiritual hype. The pastor doesn't try to motivate people carnally nor is apt to shout at the congregation. This stems from the belief that if the Lord doesn't build the house, they labor in vain who build it. A lot of hype and pressure aren't really going to do the job. We simply trust in the work of the Holy Spirit and that Jesus is building His church as He said He would."
c. "We have discovered that whenever you strive to gain, you must strive to maintain what you have gained."
d. We are "minus the hype. There isn't the carnal pursuit of new programs or spiritual hype to try to appeal to people. We trust in the Word of God and teach it and rely upon it. It's the foundation upon which we are built. It's inexhaustible. There's no burnout with it. The Word of God just keeps going on and on."

e. For finances –
    1. We don't take offerings – (2 Cor 9:6-7, Matthew 6)
    2. We trust God – (Psalm 50, Matthew 6)
    3. "where God guides God provides"
    4. "God's work, done God's way, will never lack God's supplies"

f. For volunteers –
    1. We pray (Matthew 9:38) so that (2 Cor 9:6-7).

6. A Grace Place -

It only makes sense (Eph 4:32), and it emulates the ministry of Jesus (Luke 4:18).

a. We desire to be paramedics, not police officers.
b. Always looking to restore the fallen and wayward to Jesus (Gal 6:1-2)
c. (Gen 30:32) – we will take all the speckled and spotted sheep . . . (Mt 9:12-13) the sick, (Mt 9:36) the weary and scattered without a shepherd, (1Sam 22:2) the distressed, indebt, and discontented to make the mighty army of the Son of David, and (1Cor 1:26-30) the weak, foolish, have nots in order to confound the wise and bring glory to God.
d. (Rom 14-15) – also a place where we aim to be gracious to one another in extrabiblical, external gray areas. . . . allowing the Lord to be the judge. . . (i.e.) music, smoking cigarettes, clothing, etc. . .

7. Priority of the Word - CC Distinctives ". . . endeavor to declare to people the whole counsel of God." "In the majority of the Calvary Chapels(Horizon). And the most successful ones you'll find systematic teaching of the entire Word of God, going through the Bible from cover to cover.". . . "Simply teaching the Bible simply"

a. "The whole Bible makes a whole Christian" – (Acts 20:27, Mt 4:4).
    i. With very few exceptions, on Sunday we study the New Testament straight through, Wednesday is the same with the Old Testament.
b. SIMPLE INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY . . . Scripture interprets scripture
    i. Observation – Interpretation – Correlation – Application

c. This means we don't get to teach pet topics, nor avoid difficult passages, you will be fed a well balanced diet.
d. God picks the message, no pressure on the pastor to select a particular scripture.
e. It's not the fast way, no flash, but it's the fruitful way (Mark 4) and it takes time to grow a seed. . . . "I planted the seed . . . But God made it grow. . . .!
f. The bible alone is sufficient (2Tim 3:15-17).
g. It's where we see Jesus (2Cor 3:18) and become more like Him. . . This leads us to our next point . . .

8. Jesus front and Center – (John 5, Heb 10, John 16) -
a. (Rev 2:1) – We have 7 lamps behind the stage, a reminder that Jesus walks in the midst of His church.
    i. "if Jesus' presence is ignored nothing matters, but if Jesus' presence is acknowledged, nothing else matters"
b. Avoid distractions . . . – Distinctives – "We dissuade any practice or behavior that would distract people from focusing on Him."
    i. i.e. – teaching, worship, décor . . .

9. The Rapture of the Church – (John 14:1-3, 1Cor 15:52, 1Thess 4:17) –
a. Scripture says "But I do not want you to be ignorant…" (1Thess 4:13)
b. It matters because it changes the way we live and what we look for (Luke 21:28)
c. Distinctives – "The rapture refers to the time when Jesus is going to come, without warning, and take away His church from the earth. After the rapture, the Lord will pour out His wrath upon this sinful world."
d. We take a literal approach to the book of Revelation with an easy to understand outline! (Rev 1:19 John wrote what he saw-The Risen Jesus, the things that are - The Church Age, and the things that will be after the Church - Rev 6-22) and believe it is to be taught in the church today – (Rev 22:16)
e. We reject replacement theology, which says that the church has replaced Israel, and believe the tribulation is a time in which God is dealing with Israel as He has promised (Dan 9-70th week) and is essential for the hope of the gospel we believe (Rom 11) that Jesus will return pre-millennial and will yet fulfill His promise to Israel and set up His kingdom for 1,000 years (Rev 20) from Jerusalem.
f. We believe the imminent Pre-Tribulation rapture is important for 3 reasons
    i. Produces purity (1John 3:2)
    ii. Produces urgency (Romans 13:11-14)
    iii. Produces comfort and hope (1Thess 4:17-18, Titus 2:13, Lu 21:28)
g. SO WHAT IF YOU DON'T AGREE . . . We still love you, you're welcome to attend and serve at HCF, probably won't be in a teaching role, and you may miss out on a simple crown (2Tim 4). **Listen here: Revelation 4:1-2 Part 1 & Part 2**

10. Continuing in the Spirit – (Gal 3:3) – We don't want to get stuck in ruts, trying to perfect what began in the Spirit with fleshly efforts (such as fleshly education, organization, or efforts of man power).
a. I think it's good that we remain the simple church of Philadelphia . . . (Revelation 3:7-13)

b. We are not opposed to Spirit filled education but Calvary chapels are overwhelmingly pastored by pastors who didn't go to college, lucky if they graduated high school, but are spirit filled men who know the bible and have a doctorate in the "school of Jesus" like the disciples (Acts 4:13).. .. even Paul (Phil 3:7-8). . .

11. The Supremacy of Love – (1Cor 13, John 13:34-35)

a. Bible focused, Spirit filled (1Thess 1:5), and wrapped in Love (Eph 4)

b. Without it we become annoying, useless and ineffective (1Cor 13:1-4, 1 Cor 8:1)

c. Most important to us is do you know "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so . . ." (John 4:19) and that it overflows (2Cor 5:14) . . .

d. I hear it often, and I pray it continues, "those people are the most loving group of people I have ever been around."

12. Striking the Balance – We accept that we don't understand everything, but we do trust Him and His Word – (Prov 3:5-6, Psalm 131).

a. i.e. Arminianism Vs. Calvinism - - depends on the verse, God is sovereign and has free will AND man has free will. How that works is up to Him.

b. i.e. Once saved always saved - - If you're not in the right relationship with God, you need to be.

13. Ventures in Faith: Win – Disciple – Send

a. If we win people to Christ (Mk 16:15), Disciple people in Christ (Mt 28:19-20), but it goes nowhere and we fail to send people for Christ (Acts 1:8) on ventures of faith; we become a stagnant pond, or fat sheep with poor health.

b. We believe God is at work, and want to be a part of what He is doing. . . (i.e.) 1 Samuel 14 - Jonathan and his armorbearer

c. For me it's as simple as Ask – Seek – Knock (Luke 11) . . .

d. Experiencing God – "The major turning point is where many people miss out on experiencing God's mighty power working through them. If they cannot understand exactly how everything is going to happen, they won't proceed. They want to walk with God by sight, not faith. To follow God, you'll have to walk by faith because without faith, it is impossible to please Him (Heb 11:6)."

e. We've seen this when starting Sunday services in a dance studio, FOL in riverside, moving to the train station, moving into this building in 2025.

f. As my pastor Bill was always saying "WHAT IS THE LORD DOING?" . . . get on board (Eph 3:20).

g. If you are looking for comfortable and cute plans it's not HCF. . . we don't want to be stuck on past victories but God's plan's for today (Phil 3:14-16). . . . We invite you to join.

CONCLUSION:

- There is so much pressure today to give ground, but we choose to stand on these hills, let us keep returning to our first love Rev 2:1-7, & following the blueprint laid out in Acts.
- This is HCF, we are not the only church, we ask you to pray and ask Him to direct you.
- Our volunteer/employment opportunities: horizonlacrosse.org/volunteerinfo

""To know Him, and make Him known"

I have also watched the required teaching "**The Distinctives of Horizon**" in full (see the notes above) and have filled out the following page: **YES [ ]** or **NO [ ]**

Summarize the message briefly noting what stood out to you

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____

- Please specify any questions you may have and any topics you disagree with.

_____
_____
_____
_____
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_____
_____

PERSONAL

1. Full name _____
2. Phone # _____ Cell [ ] Landline [ ]
3. Email _____

- **Please indicate if the above info can be added to the church directory and email update list: YES [ ] NO [ ]**

4. How long have you been a follower of Jesus Christ? _____
5. Please write a brief testimony of how you came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior.

6. How long have you been attending Horizon Christian Fellowship of La Crosse?
7. Do you have a previous church that you attended, if so, for how long, who was your pastor, and how long did you attend?

    a. Why did you leave your prior fellowship?

    b. Did you volunteer at your previous church and in what ministries (if applicable)?

8. Are you currently married, if so, is your spouse in agreement with you volunteering to serve at HCF?
9. How important is regular weekly fellowship in the body of Christ to you and why? Hint (Hebrews 10:24-25).

10. What worship services, Bible studies, small groups, prayer groups do you attend outside of Sunday morning fellowship?

11. How would you describe your daily devotional time with God in a few sentences? Bible reading, prayer, meditation on the word, etc.?

12. Have you been "empowered" with the Holy Spirit as explained above that you can remember? What were the results of that in your life following that experience?

13. Do you have a Titus 2 Discipleship relationship or group that you are a part of? Who is that person/group?
_____

14. Do you know what gifts of the Holy Spirit you have operating in your life today (Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4:11)?

15. Is your life lined up with the morality of a servant in the body of Christ as explained by the Apostle Paul in (1 Timothy 3) and explained above in the "statement of faith"?

a. If not, are there areas of life you would like counseling for in order to restore you to a place of victory and usefulness in the body of Christ or are you already seeking counsel (where and when)?
_____
_____
_____
_____.

III. **<u>MINISTRY CALLING</u> – (Fill in the bubble for areas you are called to serve in. Explain why you are sensing a leading towards this ministry, and what your past experience is in this area).**

<u>WORSHIP</u>

- **TEACHING –** Teaching is a gift (Eph 4:11) and should come with a heart to feed the flock of God. It is out of the desire to simply teach the Bible, simply, and see that HCF is the best-fed and most loved flock of God's sheep in town! We would ask that anyone leading adult Bible studies takes Horizon's School of Ministry Inductive Bible Study Class online. It is also our desire that all Bible studies be based on the Bible, (preferably expositional versus topical). We believe Scripture is sufficient for all maturity and ministry in the church (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

- **WORSHIP TEAM –** We believe we are to worship in Spirit and in truth. Worship should be both intelligent, and led by the Holy Spirit. We believe there is a vast difference between performing and leading worship. The goal of worship, for those who have interest, is to disappear into the background so that people would focus on Jesus. Worship has many opportunities for those who are musically gifted, with a heart to lead others in praise of our great God.

- **PRAYER –** Prayer is the powerhouse of HCF, and we cannot do without these ministers who stand in the gap for us. Sunday night prayer service, prayer during worship services, or praying for personal prayer requests that come in are all great opportunities to serve in our prayer ministry.

- **SOUND/ MULTIMEDIA -** One of the most unnoticed yet important ministries at HCF is using technology to share the gospel. Sound ministry works closely with teachers, worship leaders, and every aspect of the ministry. We also have our online materials that God uses to spread His word. A great opportunity for those with a technical mind and a heart willing to be a servant in order to spread His gospel.

<u>DISCIPLESHIP</u>

- **TITUS 2/ACTS 2:46 DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY –** We encourage those in our fellowship to get plugged into small groups of 2-10 people. Weekly sermon questions will be emailed out for study/discussion purposes. Each group will have a facilitator, but be under the leadership of HCF.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- **CHILDREN'S -** The vision of the children's ministry at HCF is to love, serve, and shepherd children so that they are encouraged to choose a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, to grow in a relationship with him, and to be equipped to live a committed life to serving Him. It is our passion to teach the children the whole council of God's Word. If God has put this on your heart, there are opportunities to teach, assist teachers or help in the nursery.

- **AWANA** – AWANA is another special way we invest in the spiritual lives of the kids of HCF. This program is broken down by age groups: Puggles (0-2), Cubbies (3-4), Sparks (K-2nd grade), and TnT (3–6th grade). AWANA seeks to equip young hearts with the gospel, foster a child's personal relationship with Jesus, and have fun while we do all of this! There are opportunities to teach, assist, substitute, listen to verses, or help with secretarial duties.

OUTREACH

- **YOUTH -** We desire that the youth (ages 13-18) at HCF would learn to know God through His Word (2 Tim. 3:16-17), and therefore learn to walk by His Spirit (Rom. 8:13-14). We believe that this is enough for them to live out victorious Christian lives as they learn to live by faith (1 Tim. 4:12; Eph. 6:14-20). Our hope is that they have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and learn to abide in Him, bearing fruit for His glory (John 15:1-8). Opportunities to serve the youth would include attending youth nights, through which you can begin Christ-centered relationships, pray for and with them, and give them biblical accountability (Titus 2:6-8).

- **EVANGELISM/ OUTREACH –** This ministry takes on many different facets at HCF. It may include street evangelism, or large-scale Festival of Life-type outreaches. It also includes being light to our community through good works to the glory of the Father such as disaster relief, homeless outreach, feeding the hungry, chaplaincy, neighborhood clean-up or our "Hope on Wheels" Horizon trailer outreach ministry etc.

- **JAIL –** We have opportunities to go into our county jail, both men's and women's, to lead worship services. This may also include serving those who are getting out of jail, bringing them to church, and helping them do life with Jesus.

- **MISSIONS –** It is our desire to equip the church to be sent out into the world, a.k.a. the mission field. Whether it be local or foreign missions, financial support, mission trips, or church planting, we want to be involved in what the Holy Spirit is doing in our church, city, neighboring areas, and the world.

517 ADDICTIONS MINISTRY

- **517 DISCIPLESHIP HOUSE -** It is our desire to lead those who struggle with the sin of addiction to freedom in Christ. There are opportunities to disciple those who need counsel, and to lead Christ-centered addictions Bible studies.

- **517 RECOVERY MEETING –** "The Most Excellent Way" has made its primary goal to declare the power that God makes available to a person to overcome addictions through the cross. We become slaves to our addiction, but the Bible holds this great promise: through Christ, we can be made free. Jesus promised, ***"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." John 8:36.***

HOSPITALITY

- **COFFEE BAR –** During regular worship services, or when the coffee shop is open. A cup of coffee and a smile is one of the greatest open doors to share the love of Jesus.

- **GATEKEEPER (Door Greeting, Ushering) –** It is our greatest desire to welcome and help direct those who come with love that goes the extra mile. This is also a ministry of protecting those who are here, especially our many little ones. To love, serve, and protect God's flock in the house of the Lord is one of the greatest privileges in the body of Christ. "For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness." (Psalm 84:10)

- **KITCHEN/ MEALS –** Since "breaking bread" is one of the four legs on our Titus2/Acts 2:46 ministry, eating together is something we cherish as a church family. This would include the prep, serving and clean up for Wednesday night fellowship meals and Sunday snacks. (This may also include outreach and special event meals.)

HELPS

- **CLEANUP CREW –** If you would like to grow in character as a servant as Jesus called us to (Mark 10:42-45) this is a great opportunity and great place to start. After worship services or other events, it takes a team to clean up and be good stewards of God's property.

- **MAINTENANCE** – There are always projects to do inside or outside, and things that need fixing. If you have the time and skill there is always a list of areas to work on.

- **Janitorial** – From cleaning the bathrooms to emptying trash there are always plenty of ways to serve the body.

OTHER – We are always excited to hear about, and pray about other ministry opportunities that the Lord may be placing on your heart:

Do we have your permission to do a background check on you? YES [ ] NO [ ]
This is simply to keep everyone as safe as possible.
(Not all criminal records will keep someone from serving in certain areas.)

Your personal information will not be kept on file at Horizon.
(This page will be retained; the following page must be filled out and will be destroyed post background check.)

Printed Legal Name:_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

***Please turn this application in to the office and we will contact you for an appointment to meet with a ministry leader. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing what God is doing!!**

Volunteer Waiver and Background Check Authorization Form

Full Legal Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Cell [ ] Landline [ ]

Address: _____

SS #: _____

DOB: _____

I hereby authorize Horizon Christian Fellowship to conduct a security background check on me. I understand that this security check will cover information including, but not limited to, criminal history, education and employment. I hereby release Horizon Christian Fellowship and its elected officials, employees, agents and assigns, as well as the Company performing the background check and its employees, from all liability resulting from the furnishing of this information to Horizon Christian Fellowship. I certify that the statements made by me on this form are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I understand that any false statements made herein could void my consideration as a Horizon Christian Fellowship volunteer.

Signature: _____

Signature of parent/guardian if under 18: _____

Date: _____

(This form will be destroyed after the background check has been completed.)

***Please turn this application in to the office and we will contact you for an appointment to meet with a ministry leader. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing what God is doing!!**