Bethlehem
Baptist Church

MEMBERSHIP

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER
OF BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

LOVE CHRIST

CONNECT WITH THE CHURCH
SERVE THE COMMUNITY
GO TO THE NATIONS

BETHLEHEMBAPTISTKY.COM

WELCOME!

We are so excited that you have chosen to come worship with us!

We pray you've felt welcome and have had the opportunity to experience community here at Bethlehem.

This packet is designed to give you a deeper understanding of who we are at Bethlehem Baptist Church and the goals we strive for personally and collectively.

Our church purpose is to:

LOVE CHRIST

CONNECT WITH THE CHURCH
SERVE THE COMMUNITY
GO TO THE NATIONS

We believe this is not just the mission of the individual, but our mission as the local church.

Remember, this is just an informational packet. If you decide after the membership orientation that God wants you to continue searching for another church, we understand. Our prayer is that you will find a church to fulfill this mission alongside, whether that is here or elsewhere.

We look forward to getting to know you more! Together, may we love Christ and share His love with all those around us.

What is Required to Be a Member?

1) Be a professing believer in Jesus Christ.

2) Have been baptized by immersion as a believer.

3) Read and affirm the Baptist Faith and Message (2000).

4) Read and sign the BBC Member Covenant.

5) Complete BBC membership orientation.

6) Be affirmed as a member by church vote.

What's the First Step?

Contact one of our Pastoral Staff to schedule a membership orientation:

Tim Harvey, Pastor
BBC Office (Tue.-Thu. 8am-4pm): 270-642-2320
timharveymusic@gmail.com
270-635-2295

Adam Rogers, Associate Pastor of Family Ministry
adam.t.rogers.bbc@gmail.com

Brandon Sickling, Pastor of Worship
brandon.sickling@gmail.com

Membership Orientation

This is a great time to ask any questions you may have. Here are a few of the topics we will discuss, but be sure to add in your own questions:

- Why is the local church important?

- Why is membership in a local church important?

- What are BBC's goals for the future?

- When can new members become more involved in ministry opportunities?

- Am I required to be baptized or re-baptized?

- What are the church's views on gender roles and women leadership in the church?

- When I tithe, where does my money go?

- What programs exist for me and my family to learn more about the Bible?

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- If I have more questions, who do I talk to?

Chat with Bro. Tim, Bro. Adam, or Bro. Brandon
You can also e-mail: timharveymusic@gmail.com

Membership Orientation

The following is what will be discussed during the membership orientation class with one of our pastoral staff. Again, any questions you may have, bring them with you!

Personal Testimony of Salvation
Please write or type your personal testimony and either email it to the Pastor, or bring it with you to the BBC membership orientation.

Statement of Faith
Bethlehem Baptist Church has adopted the Baptist Faith and Message (2000) as its statement of faith. Please take time to review the BFM 2000 found in this packet, and take note of any questions that you might have for the membership orientation.

Ordinances
During our meeting we will discuss the two church ordinances (Baptism and the Lord's Supper). Candidates for membership must have been baptized by immersion as a believer (not for salvation, but as a sign of salvation). The Lord's Supper is for baptized believers.

BBC's Purpose
Bethlehem Baptist Church's purpose statement is "Love Christ, Connect With The Church, Serve The Community, Go To The Nations". During our meeting we will discuss each part of our purpose statement and give practical ways that members can personally engage in fulfilling our purpose.

Church Structure and Governance
Bethlehem Baptist Church is a congregational body led and served by the two Biblical church offices (Pastors and Deacons). We will discuss these offices along with other structural elements during our meeting.

Membership Orientation

Association
Bethlehem Baptist Church is affiliated with associations on three levels (Local, State, and National). These are the West Kentucky Baptist Association, The Kentucky Baptist Convention, and The Southern Baptist Convention.

Covenant
After having completed membership orientation, and having met all requirements to become a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church, candidates will be asked to sign a membership covenant agreement as the final step before church affirmation through vote.

Service Opportunities

There are so many ways to get involved at BBC! No matter your passion or talents, there is a way God wants to use you. Let us know what you're interested in on the next page.

-Nursery workers

-Children's Ministry

-Vacation Bible School

-Youth Ministry

-Food Pantry

-College and Young Adult Ministry

-Local and Foreign Missions

-and more!

Membership Covenant

Having read and affirmed The Baptist Faith and Message (2000), I covenant:

* **To submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues** (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)

* **To pursue the Lord Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practice of spiritual disciplines** (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22)

***To follow the command and example of Jesus by participating in the ordinances prescribed to His Church:**

- By being baptized after my conversion
- By regularly remembering and celebrating the person and work of Christ through communion.

***To regularly participate in the life of Bethlehem Baptist Church by attending weekly services, engaging in gospel-centered community, and serving those within and outside of this church** (Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25; Titus 3:14)

***To steward the resources God has given me, including time, talents, spiritual gifts, and finances.** This includes regular financial giving, service, and participation in the community that is sacrificial, cheerful, and voluntary (Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8-9)

***By God's grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ** (1 Peter 1:13-16; 1 Peter 4:1-3). Believers should strive to put certain attitudes and actions to death while stirring and stimulating love and good deeds through the Spirit.

Membership Covenant

Below are a few examples of actions addressed in the Scriptures:

- I will practice complete chastity unless married and, if married, complete fidelity within heterosexual and monogamous marriage.
- Complete chastity and fidelity means, among other things, that regardless of my marital status, I will pursue purity and abstain from sexually immoral practices such as adultery, premarital sex and pornography (Romans 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 6:15-20; 1 Corinthians 10:8; Ephesians 5:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4).
- I will seek to preserve the gift of marriage and agree to walk through the steps of marriage reconciliation at Bethlehem Baptist Church before pursuing divorce from my spouse (Matthew 19:1-12; Mark 10:1 12; Luke 16:18; 1 Corinthians 7:10-11).
- For the role of the church in the process of divorce, one should see Paul's concern for the resolution of legal matters within the assembly of the church in 1 Corinthians 6.

*__To refrain from illegal drug abuse, drunkenness, gossip, and other sinful behavior as the Bible dictates__ (Romans 1:28-32; Romans 13:13; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:18; James 3:3-18).

*__To refrain from such activities that the Scriptures would deem foolish__ (Romans 14:14-23).

*__To take seriously the responsibility of Christian freedom, especially actions or situations that could present a stumbling block to another__ (1 Corinthians 8:1-13).

Membership Covenant

***To submit to the discipline of God through His Holy Spirit by:**

- Following the biblical principles for church discipline where sin is evident in another—the hope of such discipline being repentance and restoration.
- Receiving righteous and loving discipline when approached biblically by fellow believers (Psalm 141:5; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Hebrews 12:5-11).

***To do the following when I sin:**

- Confess my sin to God and to fellow believers.
- Repent and seek help to put my sin to death (Romans 8:13; Colossians 3:5; James 5:16; 1 John 1:6-10).

***To submit to the appointed leaders of the church and diligently strive for unity and peace within the church** (Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5).

***To do the following should I leave the church for righteous reasons:**

- To notify the appropriate staff member at Bethlehem Baptist Church.
- To seek another church with which I can carry out my biblical responsibilities as a believer.

Covenant Signature:_____

Date:_____

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Please fill out this form and return to pastoral staff

NAME: _____

BIRTH DATE: _____/_____/_____

OCCUPATION:_____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

EMAIL: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

BIRTH DATE: _____/_____/_____

OCCUPATION:_____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

EMAIL: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: _____/_____/_____

MINISTRY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SERVING IN :

_____

WILL YOU BE JOINING BY: BAPTISM LETTER STATEMENT NOT SURE

CURRENT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP WITH (IF APPLICABLE):

NAME: _____ CITY, STATE:_____

HOME PHONE: _____ _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: **MAILING ADDRESS:**

_____ _____

_____ _____

PLEASE LIST NAMES, BIRTH DATE AND SCHOOL GRADE OF CHILDREN LIVING AT HOME:

NAME	**BIRTH DATE**	**GRADE**	**SCHOOL**

I GIVE PERMISSION TO BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH TO USE MY PHOTO AND INFORMATION IN AN ONLINE DIRECTORY.

SIGNATURE:_____**DATE:** _____