

Pathway Baptist Church

Membership Agreement

I commit myself to membership in Pathway Baptist Church. I affirm that I have read, understand, and agree with the Doctrinal Statement of Pathway Baptist Church and will hold to it when teaching or acting on behalf of the church. I believe that the Bible is the Word of God and if, through study of the Bible, I come to believe that any point of the Doctrinal Statement is contradictory to the Bible, I will immediately bring it to the attention of the leadership of Pathway Baptist Church in order that the church may remain doctrinally pure.

I understand that membership in Pathway Baptist Church may only be held by those who have accepted the payment of sin offered by Jesus Christ through His death and resurrection. I affirm that I have accepted this free gift of salvation and have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

I understand that membership in Pathway Baptist Church may only be held by those who, after first accepting the free gift of salvation, have declared their faith publicly through baptism. I understand that Pathway Baptist Church only recognizes and accepts baptism conducted by a church that believes, practices, and accepts the same teachings of salvation and baptism. I affirm that after accepting salvation, I was immersed under the authority of such a church or have received baptism by Pathway Baptist Church.

I understand that God requires His people to strive against sin. I understand the responsibilities outlined in the Pathway Class and also understand that this is only a brief summary of what is expected of both a Christian and member of one of the Lord's churches. I affirm that I will strive to live my life in a way that will meet the standards of God and Pathway Baptist Church.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Pathway Baptist Church – Doctrinal Statement

The Bible

- We believe in the infallible, verbal inspiration of the whole Bible and that the Bible is the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice (Psalm 119:160; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

God

- We believe in the personal triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, equal in divine perfection (Matt. 28:19).
- We believe in the virgin birth and sinless humanity of Jesus Christ (Matt. 1:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22).
- We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ (John 10:30; John 1:1, 14; 2 Cor. 5:19).
- We believe the Holy Spirit is the divine Administrator for Jesus Christ in His churches (Luke 24:49; John 14:16, 17; Acts 1:4, 5, 8; Acts 2:1-4).
- We believe in the premillennial, personal, bodily return of Christ as the crowning event of the Gentile age. This event will include the resurrection of the righteous to eternal heaven, and the Millennium will be followed by the resurrection of the unrighteous unto eternal punishment in the lake of fire and that the righteous shall enter into the heaven age (John 14:1-6; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 2:8; Rev. 19; Rev. 20:4-6; Rev. 20:11-15; Rev. 21:8).

Salvation & Sin

- We believe that Man was created in the image of God and lived in innocence until he fell by voluntary transgression from his sinless state, the result being that all mankind are sinners (Gen. 1:26; Gen. 3:6-24; Rom. 5:12, 19).
- We believe that the suffering and death of Jesus Christ was substitutionary for all mankind and is applied only to those who believe (Isa. 53:6; Heb. 2:9; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Peter 3:18; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 John 2:2).
- We believe that the depraved sinner is saved wholly by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and the requisites to regeneration are repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 13:3-5; John 3:16-18; Acts 20:21; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:8, 9), and that the Holy Spirit convicts sinners, regenerates, seals, secures, and indwells every believer (John 3:6; John 16:8, 9; Rom. 8:9-11; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Eph. 4:30; Titus 3:5).
- We believe that all who trust Jesus Christ for salvation are eternally secure in Him and shall not perish (John 3:36; John 5:24; John 10:27-30; Rom. 8:35-39; Heb. 10:39; 1 Peter 1:5).

The Saved & The Church

- We believe that God deals with believers as His children, that He chastises the disobedient, and that He rewards the obedient (Matt. 16:27; Matt. 25:14-23; John 1:12; Heb. 12:5-11; 2 John 8; Rev. 22:12).

- We believe that Jesus Christ established His church during His ministry on earth and that it is always a local, visible assembly of scripturally baptized believers in covenant relationship to carry out the Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ, and each church is an independent, self-governing body, and no other ecclesiastical body may exercise authority over it. We believe that Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission to the New Testament churches only, and that He promised the perpetuity of His churches (Matt. 4:18-22; Matt. 16:18; Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 1:14-20; John 1:35-51; Eph. 3:21).
- We believe that there are two pictorial ordinances in the Lord's churches: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Scriptural baptism is the immersion of penitent believers in water, administered by the authority of a New Testament church in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper is a memorial ordinance, restricted to the members of the church observing the ordinance (Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 8:12, 38; Rom. 6:4; 1 Cor. 5:11-13; 1 Cor. 11:1, 2, 17-20, 26).
- We believe that there are two divinely appointed offices in a church, pastors and deacons, to be filled by men whose qualifications are set forth in Titus and 1 Timothy.
- We believe that all associations, fellowships, and committees are, and properly should be, servants of, and under control of the churches (Matt. 20:25-28).
- We believe in freedom of worship without interference from the government and affirm our belief in civil obedience, unless the laws and regulations of civil government run contrary to the Holy Scriptures (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-15).

Spiritual Gifts

- We believe that miraculous spiritual manifestation gifts were done away when the Bible was completed. Faith, Hope and Love are the vital abiding Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor. chapters 12-14).

Love

- We believe that love one for another as Jesus loves the believer manifests our discipleship, proves our love for God and symbolizes our authority as New Testament churches. Love is therefore the great commandment of the LORD Jesus Christ upon which all others are dependent (Matt. 22:35-40; John 13:34, 35; John 15:12; 1 John 4:7-21; 1 John 5:1-3; Rev. 2:4, 5).


Creation

- We believe in the Genesis account of Creation (Gen. 1; 2).

Satan

- We believe that Satan is a fallen angel, the archenemy of God and man, the unholy god of this world, and that his destiny is the eternal lake of fire (Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:11-19; Matt. 25:41; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 6:10-17; Rev. 20:10).

(revised August 19, 2007)



Creating a community that is equipped to bring Christ to our city

Our Guiding Principles

Loving God: God's overwhelming love and grace that He offers us should motivate a response to completely give Him our hearts. We can not truly love God without striving to serve Him.

Loving Others: Our love for others should mirror God's for us. It must be given unconditionally with their best interest in mind. We are to give of ourselves to others as God has given to us.

Meaningful Worship: True worship occurs when we open our hearts to celebrate what God has done in our life. God deserves more than we can ever give. It is His desire that we worship Him. Worship brings us into His presence.

Continual Prayer: Communication is essential for developing our relationship with God. We grow stronger in Him when we constantly praise who God is, confess what we need forgiven, and plead for God to work in our lives and the lives of others. We must take time to speak to God and spend time listening to His direction.

Personal Relationships: Developing authentic community within our church family is essential to spiritual growth. Accountability, intercession, mutual care, and fostering a sense of belonging are best achieved through loving relationships with each other.

Serving with Excellence: Striving to serve God with excellence brings honor to God and inspires people to do the same. Working to benefit God's kingdom should be done with a clear purpose and results in mind.

Integrity and Relevance: We believe that God's people should not have to sacrifice Biblical integrity or cultural relevance in their pursuit to worship God and reach their community. Spiritual church growth requires dedication to both principles.

Basis for Truth: God is Truth and He has displayed it to the world through His scripture, the Bible. Everything we do as a church family and as individuals must focus on living out the Truth of God in our lives.

Sharing our Faith: The life of Jesus Christ demonstrated the importance for believers to share the hope of salvation. Intentionally building relationships with non-believers along with other methods of evangelism should be a cornerstone of our daily life. We have been sent to let others know of the hope only found through faith in Jesus Christ.