

*Church membership is a visible expression of the unity Christ's people. Though "membership" is not commanded in the Scriptures it is an important opportunity to express one's faith in Christ, commitment to God's truth and unity with God's people.*

### **I. Who is Eligible for Membership?**

Anyone who believes and embraces the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ alone is eligible to become a member of Zion Church. Although we would encourage you to examine closely and accept the doctrines we teach (\*Reformed doctrine) such agreement is *not required* for membership.

### **II. What are the Vows of Membership?**

There are five questions that are publicly asked of all prospective members. These questions are designed both as a profession of faith in Christ, and as a pledge of support and submission to the Church:

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope, except through His sovereign mercy?

2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and trust Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

4. Do you promise to support this church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of this church, and promise to strive for its purity and peace?

If you can sincerely answer "I do" to each of these questions, then you are a good candidate for membership.

### **III. What are the Commitments of Membership?**

At Zion Church, being a member means more than simply having your name on a membership role. We ask our members to "support this church in its worship and work." We feel that the best way for you to grow spiritually is to be committed to the life and ministry of God's people. As a member we ask you to 1) worship regularly, 2) take advantage of spiritual growth opportunities--such

as AFC, Men's & Women's activities and small groups, 3) get involved in the lives of fellow members, and 4) to use your own spiritual gifts inside (or outside) the church. We also ask that you support Zion's ministries through your tithes and contributions.

### **IV. How Do I Pursue Membership?**

The first step toward membership in Zion Church is to participate in the regular activities of the church. Come to worship, Sunday School, Covenant Groups and other fellowship events. We want to get to know you!

The next step is to attend the *Just Looking Class*, usually offered once in the Spring and once in the Fall. This class is led by Pastor Stu Kerns and gives you an introduction to the doctrine and ministry philosophy of Zion Church.

If you wish to make the commitments outlined in the *Vows of Membership* then the final step toward membership is to meet with the elders to profess your faith in Christ. You can arrange an appointment by calling the church office (476-2524).

\*We accept the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and its companion catechisms as faithful interpretations of what the Bible teaches. Free copies are available at the church office.