

**RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS –
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
For use in Local Churches**

(This application may be obtained on the website at www.eccenter.com or by calling the International Office)

Membership serves three purposes (1) it gives you “ownership” and a greater “commitment” to the work of the local church. (2) It gives you the opportunity to be a part of the decision making process as we work together for a positive ministry emphasis. (3) It gives you the opportunity to serve in the church in a position of leadership that benefits both yourself and the local body of believers.

The DISCIPLINE of the Evangelical Congregational Church outlines the qualifications for membership: (1) Believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; (2) Believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God; (3) Be committed to daily Christian growth; (4) Be committed to giving Jesus Christ your time, talent and treasure; (5) Be supportive of our local church and the ministry of the Evangelical Congregational Church denomination; (6) Be faithful in attendance and participation; and (7) Be baptized as a Christian.

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home address _____

Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Business address _____

Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Birthplace _____

Date of birth _____

Have you been baptized? _____

If married, give full name of husband or wife _____

Date of marriage _____

How long have you lived in the community where you now make your home? _____

Are you a member of another church? _____

Name of church _____

Location _____

Are you uniting with this church (a) on confession of faith? _____
or (b) by letter of transfer? _____

What church offices have you held?

Other members of my family are:

Name _____	Age _____
Name _____	Age _____
Name _____	Age _____

Confession of Faith

Do you believe the Bible to be the Word of God and the only perfect rule for faith, doctrine and conduct? _____

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord? _____

Do you purpose to remain steadfast in the faith unto the end, and as a true follower of Jesus Christ to walk in newness of life? _____

Do you promise in watchfulness and prayer to diligently use the Word of God and the Holy Sacraments? _____

Do you promise to join in worship and service and to give regularly of your time, talent and treasure for the work of the gospel as carried on by this church and the denomination to which it belongs?

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On the following lines, give a brief statement concerning your relationship to Jesus Christ. Tell what he means to you and how he has enriched your life.

Recognizing my need of fellowship with others of like faith and mind and desiring to have a part in the ministry of the gospel, I hereby make application for membership in the _____ church of _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Receptions of Members:

When at any service there are persons who, having been approved by the Official Board/Ministry Council, shall desire to unite with the Church, the officiating minister shall call the applicants forward and address them as follows:

Dear Friends in Christ: By presenting yourself(selves) before us today you are giving a public testimony that you are professing personal faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. We rejoice with you that by this outward act you show that you have repented of your sins and trusted in Him for forgiveness of sin, newness of life now, and hope for eternity. The moment you personally received Christ you became (a) member(s) of the Body of Christ, the Church universal (Ephesians 2). Now you are presenting yourself(selves) before the Lord of the Church, and us as members of this congregation, in order to take your vows as (a) fellow-member(s) of this body of believers.

We are strengthened by hearing your public declaration of this purpose. We believe you also will be strengthened as you affirmatively answer the questions that follow:

- 1) We are a congregation affiliated with the Evangelical Congregational Church. We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God. Do you believe this and that only in these Divine writings do we find the Christian message of salvation?
If so please answer: "YES, I DO BELIEVE THIS."
- 2) You have heard the scriptural teachings regarding your need of the saving acts of Jesus Christ: His perfect life, His sacrificial death, and His defeat of death by His resurrection. By presenting yourself(selves) today in this place you are professing personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Is this your profession?
If so, please answer: "YES, I HAVE PUT MY TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR AND LORD."
- 3) When the Lord gave the Church her commission, He said we should "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). A disciple is one who is seeking to pattern his life on his Savior's. Are you sincerely seeking to be a disciple and live as Jesus would have you live?
If so, answer: "I AM DETERMINED, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, TO BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST."
- 4) The Christian is called upon to give expression of his/her gratitude for the blessings of God by returning his entire life to the Lord for His use. Will you therefore seek to faithfully accept the responsibility to use the gifts God has given you?
If so, answer: "YES, I WILL."
- 5) The Bible itself, as interpreted by the Holy Spirit is our standard of Christian life and practice, and the denomination's *Discipline* seeks to be a faithful interpretation of Scriptural standards of the Christian life. Are you willing to seek to live by the teachings of the Bible as the Spirit guides you, and will you seek to contribute to the harmony of the local church by following the rules of the *Discipline*?

If so, answer: "I WILL, THE LORD BEING MY HELPER."

- 6) Will you seek to be faithful by attendance, and participate in public worship, fellowship, study, and service opportunities of this congregation?
If so, answer: "YES, I WILL, AS GOD ENABLES ME."
- 7) Have you been baptized?
If so, answer: "YES."
- 8) To members of this congregation: Do you welcome these believers into our fellowship and care?
If so, answer: "WE DO."