



# Highland Park CHURCH

## Application for Membership/Baptism

*Please use blue or black ink*

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Which is your best contact number? \_\_\_\_\_ When is the best time to reach you? \_\_\_\_\_

Best email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: (Circle one)      **Single**    **Married**    **Separated**    **Divorced**    **Widow(er)**

Children Living at Home:

**Name:**

**Age:**

**Date of Birth:**

1. Have you put your trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? **Yes**    **No**    **Unsure**

2. Have you been baptized, since you professed faith in Christ? **Yes**    **No**

**If yes, when and where:**

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3. Are you currently a member of another church? **Yes**    **No**

If yes, when & where: Also briefly explain, your reason(s) for leaving your previous church?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How long have you been attending Highland Park Church and for what reason did you first attend?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Are there areas of service in which you would like to be involved in the church?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Personal Testimony

*The questions below help guide you through your personal story of how you came to faith in Christ. You may include specific verses, people and/or events that led to your salvation. If you need more space, you can continue below under, "Additional Comments."*

1. Provide a brief description of your life before Christ.

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2. Explain how you came to faith in Jesus Christ.

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3. Provide a brief description of your present walk with Christ

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4. Describe in your own words the message of the gospel?

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5. Additional Comments:

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# What We Believe

## Doctrinal Statement of the EFCA (1950)

### The Scriptures

We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and the Divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.

### The Triune God

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### God the Son

We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross, a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Advocate.

### God the Holy Spirit

We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and during this age to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.

### Mankind

We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is therefore lost and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.

### Salvation

We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God.

### Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by the Church during the present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.

### The Church

We believe that the true Church is composed of all such persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the Body of Christ of which He is the Head.

### Membership

We believe that only those who are members of the true Church shall be eligible for membership in the local church.

### Church Government

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Lord and Head of the Church and that every local church has the right under Christ to decide and govern its own affairs.

### Things to Come

We believe in the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord; of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment.

Are you in agreement with our doctrinal statement? **Yes** **No**

If you are not in agreement, please indicate below...

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# Our Distinctives

In addition to our statement of faith, we believe it is necessary to clarify and uphold certain distinctives that mark out our church as uniquely committed to what we understand the New Testament to teach regarding the church's doctrine and practice.

**Expository Preaching and Teaching**...that exposes the intended meaning of the Biblical text as written by the authors of Scripture and presented in a relevant and practical way, resulting in changed lives.

**Repentant Faith**...that clarifies the true Gospel which requires faith in the Person and Work of Christ and repentance towards God resulting in justification by faith, the forgiveness of sins.

**The Doctrines of Grace**...that embrace with firm conviction the eternally sovereign purposes of God in the work of Christ, applied to the helpless sinner in salvation, resulting in the praise of His glory.

**God-centered Worship**...that extolls the worth of God as a redeemed people in a volitional, intellectual, and emotional response to His Person as expressed in the work of Christ's atonement and revealed in the Word of God.

**Believer's Baptism**...as a Christ-ordained symbol of one's union with Christ and His Church through conversion; therefore, it is a step of obedience reserved for those who profess faith in Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:4).

**Biblical Counseling**...using all the all-sufficient Scriptures as the only resource for living godly in the face of life's problems, resulting in obedience and righteous interpersonal relationships.

**Plurality of Eldership**...leading the local church by the God-given authority and wisdom of Biblically qualified men united under the Lordship of the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ, resulting in edification as a church.

**Authentic Community**...living out Biblical Christianity in the context of life with other believers in a genuine way, vitally connected to one another in the local church through fellowship, accountability, prayer, discipleship, serving and using spiritual gifts, resulting in spiritual friendships that stimulate Christlikeness.

**Church Discipline**...purifying the church from unrepentant patterns of sin in the lives of people through a process of restoration as outlined in the Scriptures, in an effort to enforce accountability to the standard of God's holiness, resulting in a chaste Bride with a vibrant witness.

**Statement on Marriage**...God has designed marriage and defined it in His Word as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself (Gen. 1:27; 2:24; Matt. 19:4-6). For this reason, Highland Park Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman.

Are you willing to respect the Highland Park Distinctives? **Yes No**

Are there any Distinctives you would like to discuss further?

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# HIGHLAND PARK MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Because of the significance of church membership, we encourage people to attend Highland Park for at least 6 months before joining the church. We believe members should know their church well and be fully aware of what membership entails. It is strongly encouraged that you attend one of the Highland Park Membership sessions before applying for membership. When you are ready to take this step, we welcome that and ask you to agree with the covenant below.

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As a believer in Jesus Christ who is in agreement with Highland Park's statement of faith, vision for ministry and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Highland Park church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

- A. I will protect the unity of the church
  - By acting in love toward other member (1 Peter 1:22)
  - By refusing to gossip (Ephesians 4:29)
  - By following the leaders (Hebrews 13:17)
  - By not being active in any organization that is contrary in belief and activity to the convictions and goals of the church (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)
  
- B. I will share the responsibility of my church
  - By praying for its ministries and growth (1 Thessalonians 1:1-2)
  - By inviting the unchurched to attend (Luke 14:23)
  - By warmly welcoming those who visit (Romans 15:7)
  
- C. I will serve the ministry of my church
  - By discovering my gifts and talents (1 Peter 4:10)
  - By being equipped to serve by my pastors (Ephesians 4:11-12)
  - By developing a servant's heart (Philippians 2:4, 7)
  
- D. I will support the testimony of my church
  - By attending faithfully (Hebrews 10:25)
  - By living a godly life (Philippians 1:27)
  - By giving regularly (1 Corinthians 16:2)

I have read and agree with the Highland Park Membership Covenant. **Yes No**

Are you willing to abide by the bylaws of the Highland Park Evangelical Free Church? **Yes No**  
*(Copies are available in the church foyer)*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this form to the church office.***