



CHURCH AT THE GATE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Read the Statement of Faith and Distinctive Affirmations

Complete the Application Form

Read the Membership Covenant

Sign the Membership Agreement

StatementOfFaith

Holy Bible: WE BELIEVE that the Bible is the inspired and authoritative Word of God and the only perfect rule for faith, doctrine and conduct. We believe that scripture, in its entirety, originated with God, and that it was given through the instrumentality of chosen men. Scripture thus at one and the same time speaks with the authority of God and reflects the backgrounds, styles and vocabularies of the human authors. We hold that the Bible, composed of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament, is unique and that there are no other writings similarly inspired by God. (see Proverbs 30:5; Matthew 5:18; Romans 16:25, 26; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21 and Hebrews 4:12).

God: WE BELIEVE in one God, eternally existing in three persons—a trinity, comprising the Father, Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit—each of whom possess equally all the attributes of deity and the characteristics of personality. As such they are co-equal and co-eternal. (see Genesis 1:1, 26; Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 3:16, 17; 28:19; Luke 1:35; John 1:1,3; 4:24; Acts 5: 34; Romans 1:20; Ephesians 4:5-6; and 2 Corinthians 13:14; Hebrews 3:7-11; and 1 John 5:7).

Jesus Christ: WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ was born of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary, and is fully God and fully man. He is the only man to have ever lived a sinless life. He performed miracles, died on the cross for humankind and, thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose bodily from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory. (see Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38; John 1:1, 14; 20:28; Romans 9:5; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 2:5; 3:16 and Titus 2:13).

Holy Spirit: WE BELIEVE in the ministry and power of the Holy Spirit to work in and through individuals to bring conviction, repentance and conversion and then to sustain God's people as they live and share this life of faith. (see John 3:5-8; 16:8-11, 13; Romans 8:16; 1 Corinthians 12:11,13; Ephesians 4:3; Acts 2; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Galatians 5:16,25; and 1 Peter 1:10-12).

Sin and Separation from God: WE BELIEVE that sin is anything in thought, word or deed that is contrary to the will of God. God created human beings in His image to have fellowship with Him. We, however, sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death which is separation from God. All human beings are born with an innate bent toward sin. (see Genesis 1:26-27; 3:1-24; Romans 3:25; 5:12-18; and 1 John 1:8).

Repentance: WE BELIEVE that repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation. (see Acts 2:21; 3:19; and 1 John 1:9).

Reconciliation with God: WE BELIEVE that God loves people so much that he took the initiative to reconcile people to himself by sending his Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus voluntarily paid for our sins according to the scriptures by dying on the cross as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice; he rose victorious from the grave on the third day; and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood. He is the only mediator between people and God. (see Isaiah 53; Matthew 20:28; 28:6; John 1:29; 3:16; Romans 3:10-12, 24-26; 5:1, 9; 10:9; 1 Corinthians 15:3; 14; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:20; 1 John 1:7; 2:2; Hebrews 7:25 and Revelation 1:5; 5:9).

Salvation: WE BELIEVE in the necessity of the new birth for entrance into God's Kingdom. All who come by grace through faith to accept the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God. The salvation of humankind is wholly a work of God's free grace and not the result of human works or goodness and must be personally appropriated by individual repentance and faith. (see John 1:12-13; 3:3, 5; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; and Galatians 2:16).

Baptism in the Holy Spirit: Given at Pentecost, WE BELIEVE the baptism in the Holy Spirit is the promise of the Father. It was sent by Jesus after His Ascension to empower the Church to preach the gospel throughout the whole earth (see Joel 2:28, 29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; and Acts 1:5; 2:1-4, 17, 38, 39; 8:14-17; 10:38, 44-47; 11:15-17; 19:1-6).

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: WE BELIEVE the Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the Church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection and confirm the power of the gospel. The lists of these gifts in the Bible are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of Biblical parameters (see Romans 1:11; 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31; 14:1-40; Ephesians 4:16; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:5-16; Hebrews 2:4; and 1 Peter 4:10).

Sanctification: WE BELIEVE in the importance of continuing growth in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ for sound spiritual health. Sanctification is the on-going process of yielding to God's Word and his Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life. (see Psalm 92:12,14; John 8:31-32; Romans 8:29; 12:1, 2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 6:14-18; Ephesians 4:14-15; Philippians 1:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; 5:23; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 and Hebrews 2:11; 5:11-13).

Church: WE BELIEVE there is one church universal, comprised of all those who acknowledge Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord from the days of the apostles until now. The local church is a fellowship of believers characterized by mutual participation in and sharing of the new life in Christ. We seek to devote ourselves to worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, observance of baptism, and the Lord's Supper, fellowship, service to the body through the development and use of talents and gifts and outreach to the world. All Christians are commanded to participate in spreading the Gospel to all people groups. (see Matthew 28:19-20; Genesis 12:3-5; Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; and Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:15-16).

Resurrection and Second Coming: WE BELIEVE Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. As a result, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected—they that are saved to the resurrection of eternal life, and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (see Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19-21; 20:26-28; 21:4; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:42, 44; and Philippians 1:21-23; 3:21). WE BELIEVE Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth a second time to establish His kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (see Matthew 24:30; 26:63,64; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8; and Revelation 1:7).

Heaven and Hell: WE BELIEVE Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all who believe in the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Matthew 5:3, 12, 20; 6:20; 19:21; 25:34; John 17:24; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16; and 1 Peter 1:4). WE BELIEVE after living one life on earth, those who die still refusing God's offer of salvation through Christ will be judged by God and damned with the devil and fallen angels to remain apart from him eternally (see Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Hebrews 9:27; and Revelation 14:9-11; 20:12-15; 21:8).

Two Sacraments:

Water Baptism: WE BELIEVE following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (see Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38).

The Lord's Supper: WE BELIEVE in a unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. (See Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47, 48; and 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:23-26).

Healing of the Sick: WE BELIEVE the healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus, and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign that is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the

cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit (see Psalm 103:2, 3; Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:16, 17; Mark 16:17, 18; Acts 8:6, 7; Romans 11:29; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28; and James 5:14-16).

God's Will for Provision: WE BELIEVE it is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy and successful in all areas of life. But because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on earth. That fact, though, should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to serve others.

- Spiritual (see John 3:3-11; Romans 10:9, 10; and 2 Corinthians 5:17-21).
- Mental and emotional (see Isaiah 26:3; Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:7, 8; and 2 Timothy 1:7; 2:11).
- Physical (see Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:17; and 1 Peter 2:24).
- Financial (see Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Joshua 1:8; Ps. 34:10; 84:11; Malachi 3:10, 11; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; and Philippians 4:19).

Distinctive Affirmations

Sanctity of Life: We believe that God is the Creator of all life. (see Genesis 1:27) Human life is a precious gift from God, sacred and to be protected from the moment of conception. We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (see Psalm 139:13-16; 51:5; Jeremiah 1:5; Isaiah 44:2,24; and Luke 1:41; 2:12) We also believe the Church is called to promote the stewardship of life and be actively compassionate in sharing the forgiveness and healing offered in Jesus Christ. (see 1 John 1:9; Psalm 103:12; and Matthew 5:7).

Women in Ministry: WE BELIEVE in the equal partnership of men and women in God's creation and in the full participation of each in the various ministries of the Church. (see Genesis 1:26-28; 2:23-24: 5:1, 2; Joel 2:28-32; Galatians 3:28; Romans 16:1-16).

Other religions: WE BELIEVE that other religions and ideologies are not alternative paths to God, and that human spirituality, if unredeemed by Christ, leads not to God but to judgment, for Christ is the only way. (see John 14:6).

Freedom in Christ: WE BELIEVE in the reality of freedom in Christ. This freedom creates a climate which allows for differences of opinion in matters of interpretation, doctrine and practice within the context of Biblical guidelines and historical Christianity. (see John 8:31-32, 36; Romans 14; Galatians 5:1,13; 1 Peter 2:16; and James 1:25).

We are a Spirit filled and Spirit Led Church. Church at the Gate is both an evangelical church as well as a spirit filled church. We strive to bring together the best of both the charismatic and the evangelical worlds. We believe in the infilling of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer and in all the gifts of the Spirit, including tongues, healing and prophecy. However, we do not see tongues as the only evidence of the Holy Spirit in a person's life.

Statement on Marriage: Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, Church at the Gate will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman as defined at the time of their birth. Further, the Pastors/Ministers/Clergy and staff of Church at the Gate shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one biological man and one biological woman. Finally, the facilities and property of Church at the Gate shall only host weddings between one biological man and one biological woman.

End Times View: The most controversial point in our view of the End times is that we can find no scripture passage that says the church will be raptured before the tribulation. The pre-tribulation rapture view, though popular, is a recent doctrinal position that began in the 1830's. The forecast at the end of the age is the world will be shaken and it is ill-advised to be standing on unstable doctrines. We want it to be said of us, "The Spirit and the Bride say come Lord Jesus." We long for His coming. But as a church we are not teaching a pre-tribulation viewpoint. The Bible clearly teaches the Church will be raptured – That is not the issue. The issue lies in the timing. We honor those who hold to a pre-trib., mid-trib., and a post trib., viewpoint. And while we are unable to agree with a pre-trib. viewpoint we do so in a spirit of love and not with a spirit of debate. Many people at Church at the Gate hold various positions on the timing of the second coming. The point is, Christ will come again and rapture His church. That is definite. Our prerequisite and mandate from the Lord is to be ready for the coming pressures and not be unprepared for the days ahead.

THE CHURCH AT THE GATE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WELCOMETOOURFAMILY!

WE'D LIKE TO GET TO KNOW YOU!

Personal Information

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

_____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ Cell Phone

(____) _____

Sioux Falls Campus____; Madison Campus____; Email:

Male___ Female___; Day/Month of Birth ____/____; Single___ Married___

Occupation:

—

I have the following expertise:

Spouse's name: _____ Day/Month of Birth ____/____

Children:

First name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Live w/you	Attend?	M/F
------------	-----------	---------------	------------	---------	-----

Life Group(s) I am presently in

Ministries I presently serve

in _____

Circle all areas in which you are *interested* in serving.

Greeter—Nursery—Children—Teach Kids—VBS—Middle School—High School— Youth Leader—
Singles—Couples— College/Young Adults—Young Marrieds—Men's—Tailgate Jesus—Women's
Ministry—Women's Mentoring—Technical—
CDs—Sound—Videographer—Media—Lights—Prayer—Worship Team—Gate House of Prayer—
Van Driver— Meals— Coffee—Appreciation Team—Life Group Leader—Calling/Visitation—
Mowing—Snow Removal—Cleaning—Landscaping—
Missions—Drama/Dance/Flag Worship—Communion Preparation—Native American Outreach—
Events/Outreach—Gate

School of Ministry—Community Garden—Library—Prophetic Prayer—Healing Ministry—Altar Prayer—Maintenance— Building Projects—Mission Trip-Greece—Mission Trip-India—Mission Trip-Kenya—Mission Trip-Albania

Other _____

NEWMEMBERBRIEFBIO

Name:

Hometown (where you spent most of your childhood):

Places lived:

Previous church affiliations:

How/Where you spend the bulk of your time:

Favorite way to spend free time:

Where you are presently serving at *Church at the Gate*...

And/or where do you see yourself serving at *Church at the Gate* in the near future? ...

How I ended up at *Church at the Gate*...

I hope heaven includes...

What I'd like to say to the people at *Church at the Gate*...

MYTESTIMONY

Name _____

In the space below, write a few paragraphs describing how and when you asked Jesus into your life to be your Lord and Savior. The following three questions are here to guide you:

- 1) What was your life like before you decided to trust Christ?
- 2) Describe how and when you decided to trust Christ alone for your salvation.
- 3) How has this decision made a difference in your life since?

THE CHURCH AT THE GATE

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with *Church at the Gate's* statements, strategy and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the *Church at the Gate* family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

I will protect the unity of my church...by acting in love toward other members; by refusing to gossip; by following the leaders.

"So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together" (Romans 14:19 Phillips). *"Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart"* (I Peter 1:22 TEV). *"Do not let any unwholesome talk out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs"* (Eph. 4:29). *"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you"* (Hebrews 13:17).

I will share the responsibility of my church...by praying for its growth; by inviting the unchurched to attend; by warmly welcoming those who visit.

"To the church-...We always thank God for you and pray for you constantly" (I Thessalonians 1:1-2 LB). *"The Master said to the servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes, and urge the people there to come so my house will be full'"* (Luke 14:23, NCV). *"So, warmly welcome people each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified"* (Romans. 15:7 LB)

I will serve the ministry of my church...by discovering my gifts and talents; by being equipped to serve by my pastors; by developing a servant's heart.

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you" (I Peter. 4:10 Phillips). *"[God] gave...some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up"* (Ephesians 4:11-12). *"Each of you should look not only to your own interest, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who...[took on] the very nature of a servant"* (Philippians 2:3-4, 7).

I will support the testimony of my church...by attending faithfully; by living a godly life; by giving regularly.

"Let us not give up meeting together...let us encourage one another" (Hebrews 10:25). "Whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27 Phillips). "Each one of you, on the first day of the week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering." (1 Corinthians 16:2).

The Senior Pastor, the Board of Elders, and the Board of Trustees of Church at the Gate shall have final authority in all matters of church governance, as set forth and described in the Bylaws.

Church at the Gate (CATG)

Membership Agreement

Check one:

Sioux Falls: As a member of CATG in Sioux Falls, South Dakota...

Madison: As a member of CATG in Madison, South Dakota...

...I affirm that I am a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and will abide by the tenets of the Bylaws of Church at the Gate.

I have read and understand that, by my confession, my conduct, and this signed statement, that I am living in accord with my affirmation and

actively pursuing and continuing a vital fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

_____ *Date* (Please **PRINT** your
name)

Signature

The Senior Pastor, the Board of Elders, and the Board of Trustees of Church at the Gate shall have final authority in all matters of church governance, as set forth and described in the Bylaws.

Word/membership/membership application all in one