

Procedures for membership

A request for membership can be made to the pastor or any other Servant Leader.

Any person expressing a desire to become a member will be asked to read through the Church Constitution, the Declaration of Faith, and the Church Covenant.

A Servant Leader, (or someone they designate) will meet with a prospective member to go through the above documents for the purpose of clarity and understanding.

A prospective member should meet the constitutional requirements and be in strong agreement with the Declaration of Faith and the Church Covenant in order to continue into membership.

The following is then required:

- Give a personal testimony (*how did you find Christ? what do you believe?*) before the Servant Leadership Team.
- Receive favorable recommendation by the Servant Leadership Team.
- Receive a vote of approval by the Church.

And welcome to the Immanuel faith family!

Immanuel Baptist Church is a group of broken people coming together to grow closer to God by prayerfully seeking Him in His Word and sharing the peace and hope of Christ with others.



**Come join our church family
and make Immanuel your home.**

**KNOW Jesus
GROW in Jesus
SHOW Jesus**

MEMBERSHIP AT IMMANUEL



Membership Procedures

Immanuel Baptist Church
1300 West Hawkins
Kankakee, Illinois 60901

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www.ibck3.org

What is required to be a member? Why should I join ?



At Immanuel Baptist Church we believe that when a person

turns in faith to Jesus Christ for salvation, as a believer they become a member of the body of Christ, His church. (1 Cor. 12:13).

The local church, then, is a faith family of believers who have committed to serve Christ together as a congregation.

The local church is:

a gathering of those who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

a faith family committed to meet regularly for worship, teaching, fellowship, and prayer

believers working together to make disciples of all people as Jesus instructed in his Great Commission

To be a member is to commit formally to an identifiable local body of believers.

While membership is not commanded in the Bible, it is implied all through the New Testament. Like marriage, it is a committed, covenant relationship.

What Membership is Not:

- Salvation
- The way to get to Heaven
- To gain God's favor
- To guarantee long or easy life or prosperity

What Membership is:

- Identification with Jesus Christ
- Worshiping regularly with other believers
- Working together with other believers
- Serving and lifting up one another through the proper use of gifts (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-31; 1 Pet. 4:10-11)
- Giving finances generously to the work of the church and to the benevolent needs of others.
- Bearing burdens together
- Holding one another accountable in walking with Jesus
- Receiving instruction from God's Word (1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 4:2)
- Participating in the ordinances (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42)
- Proclaiming the Gospel to those who are lost (Matt. 28:18-20)
- Participating in the business of the church

Note: Members must be 18 to vote and cannot hold office until after one year of membership

Constitutional Requirements for Membership at Immanuel Baptist Church

(One of the following)

- Verbal confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and baptism by immersion.

This is when a person is making a public profession of faith in Christ as Lord and Savior. You may have come to faith at an earlier time, but you are now making your decision public, requesting baptism by immersion and membership.

- Letter of recommendation from some other Baptist Church of like faith and order.

You have been a member of another church with beliefs and practices like Immanuel's' and you now want to move your membership to our church.

- Statement of Christian experience, if previously baptized by immersion.

We understand and recognize that not all churches have "membership" and that you may just simply be joining our church without an official transfer.

- Former member renewing membership

Welcome home!