Application for Church Membership

Carefully consider the following requirements for membership at The Neighbourhood Church:

1. Full agreement with the attached Statement of Faith embraced by this assembly
2. Tithing. Members are expected to tithe at least 10% of their income to the Lord, giving priority to the operation of this assembly
3. A willingness to appear before the Board of this church to be interviewed regarding your application for membership
4. Agreement with the adherence to the constitution and By-laws of this assembly
5. A willingness to work for unity and harmony within this assembly and to be loyal to the Pastor(s) and elected officers
6. The embracing and practicing of a life-style consistent with the following statement:

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP – PAOC LOCAL CHURCH CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1

Persons desiring to become members of this church shall give credible profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. They shall give evidence of compliance with the biblical standard of Christian practice and manifest spiritual growth by giving evidence of the fruit of the Spirit;

“love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” (Gal 5:22,23 NIV)

They shall refrain from “acts of the sinful nature: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery, idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissentions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like” (Gal 5:19-21 NIV). Sexual immorality shall be interpreted to mean common-law marital relationships, pre-marital and extra-marital relationships (1 Cor 6:15-18; 7:1-2:1; 1 Thess 4:3-8; Hebrews 13:4), and all forms of homosexual and lesbian

 activity, along with other practices deemed inexcusable for Christian conduct, and which place a person under God’s judgement (Rom 1:26-2:11).

1. The waiving of my right to sue this assembly or the PAOC should my membership be revoked for failing (in the judgement of the Board of this Assembly and the Saskatchewan District Executive) to meet the above conditions
2. Acceptance of the condition that membership automatically lapses after three consecutive months of unwarranted or voluntary absence from gatherings of The Neighbourhood Church
3. Would you submit to being interviewed by the Board of Elders? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

Would you like to request an interview with the Board of Elders: \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (h)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (c)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

**For Office Use only**

Date application received: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Date application reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Accepted? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Denied? \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Lead Pastor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Faith

1. We believe the Holy Scriptures to be the divinely inbreathed, infallible, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God
2. We believe that there is one God, externally existent in the Person of the Holy Trinity
3. We believe in the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, His unqualified deity, His sinless humanity and perfect life, the eternal all sufficiency of His atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the Father’s right hand, and His personal coming again at the second advent
4. We believe that justification is a judicial act of God on the believer’s behalf solely on the merits of Christ and that spiritual renewal by the power of the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation
5. We believe in holy living and the present-day reality of the baptism of the Holy Spirit (according to Acts 2:4), the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the Lord’s supernatural healing of the human body
6. We believe in Christ’s Leadership of the church, observance of the ordinances of Christian baptism by immerse for believers, and the Lord’s Supper
7. We believe in the eternal blessedness of the redeemed in heaven and the eternal doom of the non-repentant in the lake of fire.

For a more detailed Statement of Faith please go to paoc.org and open the PAOC FAMILY page. Then open up “What We Believe.” A copy of our Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths will come up for you to read or print.

Missions Statement

Helping people find and follow Jesus:

- by loving and caring for one another

- by teaching and living the Scriptures

- by adding value to our neighbourhood and beyond

Membership Covenant

I will protect the unity of my church.

- by acting in love toward other members

- by refusing to gossip

- by following the leaders

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

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

I will support the testimony of my church.

- by attending faithfully

- by living a godly life

- by giving regularly

Church Culture

This is the Air we Breathe

**H**onour

 The air we breathe at The Neighbourhood Church will be filled with honour. We want “to love one another with brotherly affection (and) outdo one another in showing honour.” **(Romans 12:10, ESV).** Those whom some would deem as less honourable are going to receive abundant honour at The Neighbourhood. We are going to honour our spiritual leaders **(1 Timothy 5:17, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).** When we think we have honoured enough we are going to give more honour. We are going to be marked by showing appreciation and respect for one another.

**E**xalt

 We are going to seek to make sure that everything that is done in our church is glorifying to God. **(1 Corinthians 10:31).** We have a high view of God and of the Scriptures. When we gather, we will magnify the Lord and exalt His name together **(Ps. 34:3).** We understand that as we exalt God (make Him large and magnified) that we must in turn walk in personal and corporate humility (not seeking great things for ourselves).

**E**njoy

 The first question the Westminster Short Catechism asks, “what is the chief end of man?” In 21st Century vernacular it is asking “why does man really exist? What are we here for?” The answer the catechism gives is we are here to exalt and enjoy God. We believe that in God’s presence is fullness of joy**. (Psalms 16:11).** We do not believe God has forgiven us to make us miserable, uptight people. He wants us to enjoy Him. In turn, we pray that the Lord will bless us, no matter what we have or are going through, with peace and happiness as we learn to live in His presence**. (Psalms 64:10, CEV)**

**D**elight

 We find great joy and delight in God’s Word. **(Psalm 119:16, 24, 35,47,70, 77, 92, 143, 174).** At our church we love sermons, find extreme satisfaction in getting together in Neighbourhood Groups to discuss and determine how to apply God’s Word to our lives, and delight in praying the Scripture. We are really, really fond of God’s Word and delight in it.

**S**erve

 Our goal is to be a church family that is committed to serving the Lord and one another with all our heart and soul. **(Joshua 22:5, 1 Peter 4:10).** All of us should be excited about finding a way to serve God, each other, and our community. Jesus didn’t come to be served. He came to serve. **(Mark 10:45)** Our primary purpose in coming to church is not to “get” something out of it but to “give.” By love, let us serve one another.

**THIS IS THE AIR WE WANT TO BREATHE AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHURCH. LETS BE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO BEING A CHURCH THAT HEEDS OUR CULTURE.**