

Trinity Baptist Church New Member Workshop



TRINITY
BAPTIST CHURCH



TRINITY

BAPTIST CHURCH

*"We exist to become a
Gospel-centered community redeeming
brokenness through hope in Jesus Christ."*



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Welcome to Membership Workshop

We're so glad you are here to learn more about our church.

There is a lot of information, so please feel free to stop me and ask any questions that may come to mind. I will answer to the best of my ability.

You will notice that this workshop is broken up into three main categories.

The first thing you notice is Covenant language.

We are very purposeful in using that terminology.



OUR COVENANT TOGETHER: Our Unifying Beliefs



OUR COVENANT TO YOU: What Members Can Expect from Their Church



YOUR COVENANT TO US: What Your Church Expects from You

Cov•e•nant

- A formal, sincere, and binding agreement (verbal or otherwise)
- A written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties, especially for the performance of some action(s)

A Covenant is a solemn and binding agreement between two or more parties. Usually, the parties would agree to a standard of conduct with one another, and then seal the agreement with a mutual oath. Covenants could be made between anyone— from private individuals all the way up to kings and political states.

The viability of Covenant relationships— in stark contrast to legal ones— depends solely upon the integrity of the parties who are actually making promises under oath. The partners are directly accountable to one another. If the partners are insincere in making promises or unreliable in keeping them, then the relationship is in jeopardy. In order for a broken Covenant to remain viable, everything depended on the offending party to repent and the offended party to forgive.

Not only were Covenants common in ancient history, but they are also heavily woven into the narrative of the Bible. On several occasions, God made covenants with human beings. Gen. 12:1-3; 25:23; Exodus 19; Deuteronomy 29; 1 Kgs. 14:7-19; 2 Kgs. 9:6-10; 2 Sam. 7; 21:7. Most notable among these covenants were God's Covenant to Abraham, David and the nation of Israel.

Ultimately, Jesus is the greatest fulfillment of God's Covenantal promises. As the God-Man, He is the perfect mediator of the New Covenant. He faithfully and perfectly upholds both ends of the Covenantal promises within His person and work.

At Trinity, it's important that as a family we are all on the same page. Our goal is to hold to a three-fold Covenant with our members. As a church family, it is imperative that we all agree on the fundamental historic doctrines of the Christian faith, while lovingly and graciously serving one another as we participate in the furthering of God's kingdom.

Our three-fold Covenant includes:

- **OUR COVENANT TOGETHER AS A CHURCH** (Our Core Doctrines)
- **OUR COVENANTAL PROMISES TO YOU** (What Members can Expect from their Church)
- **YOUR COVENANTAL PROMISES TO US** (What Your Church Expects from its Members)

We are:

- Elder-Led
- Congregationally Af-
- Deacon Served

OUR STRUCTURE
firmed

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW MEMBER WORKSHOP

OUR COVENANT TOGETHER

OUR UNIFYING BELIEFS

Doctrine is **essential** to our church and for unity. We believe that we are to adhere to the fundamental teachings of scripture as the basis of what we **teach** and **practice** as the body of Christ and as individuals.

In order to covenant together in unity, we must agree on the essential foundations of what forms Trinity as a distinct, local, expression of God's church. As one church family, there are essential doctrines we firmly hold to with a closed hand without apology. However, there are also many doctrines and practices that we lovingly hold in an open-handed way that will not divide us as a church community. Biblical wisdom is knowing the distinctions between closed-hand and open-hand doctrines and practices.

- **Essential** doctrines are those beliefs that are directly related to the Gospel and the clear teaching in scripture regarding salvation and the core functions of the church.
- **Non-essential** doctrines are certain beliefs, teachings, and practices that do not directly affect the Gospel Message or the reliability of the Bible.
- With the **essential** doctrines we lovingly teach with authority without wavering. In the **nonessentials**, we lovingly discuss but never divide.

PART 1: DOCTRINE - CHURCH FORMATION

The Bible

We firmly hold to the entire Bible, all 66 books of the combined Old and New Testaments, as the verbally inspired, inherent, word of God. Through the providence of God, His Word has been protected, preserved, and passed down to His church for all places and all times. Scripture is the only infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice.

God

We firmly hold to one true, living, sovereign, holy, and eternally existent God. He exists in three co-equal persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - each being a distinct person and with a distinct function, but all of one essence and all possessing the same nature, perfection, and attributes. As the Creator, the triune God is King over creation, the sustainer of all things, the source of all truth, and is worthy of worship, confidence, and obedience.

Jesus Christ

We firmly hold that Jesus Christ is the second member of the triune God. Not only has He eternally existed as the Son of God, but He took on flesh and became the God-man - perfectly representing both divinity and humanity in His person and work. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed many miracles, shed His blood on the cross as a vicarious substitute, was buried, bodily resurrected in power over sin and death, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return literally, visibly, and personally in glory as Lord over all.

Holy Spirit

We firmly hold that the Holy Spirit is the third member of the triune God, eternally co-equal and co-existent with the Father and the Son. He is the chief convictor of sin, and the chief agent of regeneration, adoption, and sanctification. The Holy Spirit indwells every believer and empowers every believer to live a godly life out of their identity in Christ. Through His gift of the Holy Spirit, God graces every believer with spiritual gifts, which are sovereignly-given abilities graciously bestowed upon every believer at salvation to enable them to perform and function effectively within God's family - the church.

Mankind and Sin

We firmly hold that in the beginning God created mankind in His image to perfectly reflect God's glory, steward creation, and live in right relationship to God as king and others as fellow image-bearers. Adam and Eve, the first humans, rebelled against God, and selfishness flooded the human heart for the first time. By Sinning in disobedience, mankind fell from their good and right place, and now all people everywhere sin by commission and omission, and have lost their ability to live for the glory of God. Mankind's fall has incurred both physical and spiritual death on all until there is forgiveness and salvation by the grace of God.

Salvation

We firmly hold that the salvation of lost and sinful mankind is a free gift of God's grace apart from human work or merit, based solely upon Jesus' vicarious, atoning, and victorious death, effected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and received only through faith in the person and finished work of Jesus Christ. Further, we firmly hold that God is sovereign in the salvation process. The Bible teaches there is an election of individuals to salvation. God not only desires that all be saved, but He also knows who will be saved. Somehow God's sovereign election and a person's responsibility to have faith are both required in the salvation of an individual. While reconciling the biblical doctrines of God's election and man's responsibility may be humanly impossible, scripture clearly presents this tension, and we humbly accept it.

Eternal Security

We firmly hold that since God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, the believer is secure in that salvation forever. Our salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the efforts of the believer.

The Church

We teach that the church is the universal body of Christ and the one family of God. The church is made up of saved and baptized believers, who participate often in the Lord's Supper, who regularly join together on the Lord's Day for worship, who share life for the purpose of spiritual maturity and who together, though the power of the Holy Spirit, advance the Great Commission. The local church is a visible expression of the church in a particular communal context. Trinity is part of the global church and is a local church expression.

Baptism and The Lord's Supper

We firmly hold that Jesus instructed His followers to remember His death and resurrection. He gave the church two visible symbols (called "ordinances") as reminders. These two ordinances are baptism and the Lord's Supper. Neither of these ordinances contains any saving grace.

The Home

In addition to these important beliefs, we also firmly hold that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in a covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church. And that the biblical roles of all those that make up the home be developed through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Now, we want to hear your story.... Please tell us about your salvation and Baptism on the sheet clipped at the back of this book entitled "**What's Your Story?**".

OUR COVENANT TO YOU:

WHAT MEMBERS CAN EXPECT FROM THEIR CHURCH

PART 2: PURPOSE - MISSION

Trinity exists with a distinct purpose. Not only do we hold to a particular set of core doctrines, but we also hold to a set of firm convictions that are fleshed out with our distinct mission and vision as a church community.

What does it mean to have a mission and vision?

A Mission Statement: Tells us what we are called to do. We believe every church has the same mission mandate by Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples. He instructs his disciples this way:
Matthew 28:18-20 ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

A Vision Statement: Tells us how we do it. Our Vision is **"to become a Gospel centered community redeeming brokenness through hope in Jesus Christ."**

Church Strategy: This allows us to narrow the focus to advance our vision.

A Threefold Strategy:

- A. Trusting Jesus through Worship
- B. Transforming lives in Community
- C. Telling others by living on mission

PART A. Trusting Jesus through worship

Trusting Jesus in all areas of our lives requires a lifestyle of worship.

Worship is both Private & Corporate

Our Corporate Worship is Sunday's at 11:00 AM

Our style of worship is vertically directed and horizontally connected.





PART B: Transforming lives in community

Why Community? God created us **relationally** and discipleship happens best in the context of relationships.

Trinity is committed to valuing, facilitating, and cultivating Community in its members any way that is biblically healthy and responsible.

Genesis 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

Acts 2:42;46 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

A Group is a small group who live in community, grow in Christ, and advance the Gospel by living missionally together. Being involved in Life Group is essential to "being the church", rather than simply attending church.

A Group isn't just another meeting, it's how you'll finally start living the life you've always wanted; the life God is calling you to experience and enjoy.

THREE PURPOSES OF GROUPS:

1. Live in community

Encouragement - By sharing life's joy's, hurts, and needs.

Romans 12:13-16 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality...
¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another...

Accountability - By Challenging and admonishing each in love to pursue Christ.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works

Building Friendships - By weekly meetings, regular fellowships, and ongoing connection.

Acts 2:46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts

2. Grow in Christ

Discovering Biblical Truths - Through interactive Bible study

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Transformed Mind - Being committed to growing in biblical understanding.

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Application - Finding ways to live out the Biblical truths we discover.

James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Transparency - Openness about struggles, allowing others to support.

James 5:16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

3. Advance the Gospel

Missional Living - Challenging each other to daily live to impact those around us with the Gospel.

Matthew 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Transforming the City - Finding an area of need and meeting that need together with the love of Christ.

James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Make Disciples - Connecting people who encounter Christ to the group for continued growth and Maturity.

Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Our Groups meet Sundays at 9:30 AM & at 5 PM, Wednesdays at 6:00 PM & Thursday at 6 PM



PART C: Telling others by being on mission

God's **Redemptive** Purpose: God has reconciled us to Himself and now has called us to be agents of reconciliation.

Trinity is committed to valuing, facilitating, and cultivating Mission efforts both in the community and around the world in each and every way possible.

2 Corinthians 5:18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

It is our responsibility: As a church we must see that it is our responsibility to advance the Gospel to all nations.

Not only does Trinity value going on mission, but we are committed to pouring out our time, talents, and resources in an effort to be faithful to the privilege of equipping and mobilizing God's people for God's mission.

Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

It is your responsibility: God has called every believer to get in "the game".

Ultimately, no matter how much we may equip and mobilize people for mission, the heart of God's people must be properly aligned to God's values. Every believer is called to go on God's mission right where He has placed them. Disobedience to that call is not Biblically permissible for God's family members.

Ephesians 4:11-12 And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ



YOUR COVENANT TO US:

WHAT YOUR CHURCH EXPECTS FROM YOU

As a community that is committed to certain doctrinal values and a specific purpose, faithful members are the only way that the community keeps functioning well. The Bible assumes faithful service to God in the expression of a local body of believers that we would call our church family. So, becoming a member of Trinity means that you covenant to not only be served, but to also faithfully serve the rest of your church family.

Where to Serve: Trinity Serves

On the Campus: We have volunteer opportunities for various types of gifts and abilities. We depend on volunteers to make the ministry on the campus happen.

In the City: We are discovering areas of needs and lostness in our city and are mobilizing our church to meet those needs with the love and message of Jesus.

Around the World: We are mobilizing national and international efforts to take the Gospel to the unreached people in our world and we want to get everyone involved.

How to Serve: Scripture doesn't hint at a multiple choice, best two out of three, or pick your favorite when it comes to serving, but rather for church believers to participate at some level in all three.

Going— We want to help each member to live missionally through active participation in missions and ministry endeavors. *Please complete the Ministry Volunteer form clipped at the back of this booklet.*

Giving— We want to see our time, talents, money, and resources used as tools to advance the Gospel.

Time— Allowing your life to be used for eternal purposes

Talents— Using your crafts and skills to advance the Kingdom

Money— Tithing/Special offerings to fund the various ministries

Resources— Using your possessions as tools for ministry

Praying— Seeking God's power to enable us to do what He has called us to do.

Our Measure of success: We define success not by how many people are coming to the church but by how many people are leaving "as the Church".



TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW MEMBER WORKSHOP

generosity

openhandedness • kindness • unselfishness

When it comes to generosity, here are some positive realities about online, automatic giving;

1. Giving through a checking account or debit card means giving to the Lord before we give to anything else. Prov. 3:9 says, *“Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce.”* Automatic giving allows us to give to the Lord before the rest of the paycheck is allocated to other things.
2. Automatic giving prevents the necessity of a checkbook or being in town to give. Sickness, vacation, or forgetting a checkbook will not prevent your generosity. This type of giving takes away any excuses or fears that might hinder us from trusting the Lord. Generosity reminds us that He will take care of us as promised in Phil. 4:19, *“My God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”*
3. Giving automatically allows you to prayerfully choose an amount and frequency; and then it's set! *“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”* 2 Cor. 9:7

You can set up online giving by going to <http://www.trinitytx.org> and click on the highlighted **give** tab. This page will allow you to create your own log-in, password, online profile, and preferences for your automatic online giving.

If you are interested in online generosity and have questions, please let us know. We will contact you this week with answers!

You can also give by...

- Placing your cash or check in the offering plate
- In the marked box mounted on the wall in the Fellowship Area
- Setting up a reoccurring check from your personal online banking institution
- You can download the “Church Center” app in the App Store or Google Play—Find Trinity Baptist Church and follow the on screen prompts.

ORDINANCES WE CELEBRATE

BAPTISM:

Baptism by immersion is a one-time act of obedient identification with Jesus as Lord. It serves as an outward sign of conscious confession of repentance and faith.

1. Jesus commanded it.
2. Baptism is an act of obedience.
3. Baptism is a picture of what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross, was buried, and rose again.
4. Baptism is a public testimony of your faith and presents a picture of the change from your past to your new life in Jesus.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: The Lord's Supper is an ongoing symbol remembering our Lord's death, burial resurrection, and promised return.

Jesus never asked His disciples to remember His birth. He did, however, instruct them to remember His death and resurrection.

- Object lesson of Great Spiritual Truth.
- Bread represents the Body of Christ.
- Cup represents the Blood of Christ.
- It is a reminder.
- It is a symbol.
- It is for Believers only.