

**CONSTITUTION  
of the  
CORNERSTONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**

**of  
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**  
(revised 2012)

**PREAMBLE**

As members of this church, we band ourselves together in order to carry out the commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, and do ordain and establish this Constitution to which we do voluntarily submit ourselves.

Name and Location:

The name of this church shall be the Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church, located in or near Prescott, Arizona.

**ARTICLE II** Purpose:

To love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.  
(Matt. 22:37-39)

We will manifest this love by:

1. Public worship of God and the proclamation of the Scripture.
2. Nurturing and discipling young people and adults for spiritual growth and service.
3. Supporting and encouraging personal evangelism and missions at home and abroad.
4. Supporting, encouraging, loving and praying for one another.

**ARTICLE III** Affiliation:

The church shall be associated with the Evangelical Free Church of America and its Southwest Border District Conference. It may send delegates to their conferences, support their home and foreign missions, and unite in mutual efforts for the furtherance of the Gospel in whatever measure the church may decide. Such affiliation shall in no way abrogate the autonomy of the local congregation.

## **ARTICLE IV** Statement of Faith:

The following statement of faith, adopted at the annual Conference of the Evangelical Free Church of America, June 26, 2008, at Minneapolis, Minnesota, shall be the statement of faith of the Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church of Prescott, Arizona.

*The Evangelical Free Church of America is an association of autonomous churches united around these theological convictions:*

### **God**

1. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

### **The Bible**

2. We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

### **The Human Condition**

3. We believe God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

### **Jesus Christ**

4. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus - Israel's promised Messiah - was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

### **The Work of Christ**

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

### **The Holy Spirit**

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

### **The Church**

7. We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

### **Christian Living**

8. We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

### **Christ's Return**

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

### **Response and Eternal Destiny**

10. We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

## **ARTICLE V**    Membership:

Any person shall be eligible for membership who confesses Christ as Saviour, whose conduct is in accord with his confession, who accepts the Bible as the final authority for his life, and who subscribes to the Constitution

and the Statement of Faith of this church. (I Peter 1:22-23, James 1:21-22, Eph. 4:1-6). All applicants shall be reviewed by the Elders according to the by-laws.

**ARTICLE VI** Property:

1. During the existence of this church, the ownership and control of all property shall remain with the congregation.
2. In the event this church shall ever dissolve, which God forbid, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the church, all of the property, real and personal, shall be given to the Southwest Border District, or to any successor Evangelical Free Church District in which this church is located.
3. If a division occurs in the church, the name and all property shall be retained by those adhering to this Constitution and Statement of Faith. In the event of a dispute as to which faction is adhering to this Constitution and Statement of Faith, the Southwest Border District Conference Board shall review the dispute and make a decision binding on both factions.

**ARTICLE VII** Amendments:

A motion to amend this Constitution may be considered only after it has been presented in writing to the Elders. All amendments will be discussed at a special business meeting 60 days prior to the annual business meeting.

Amendments may be adopted at an annual meeting only with a three-quarter vote of approval of active members present.

**ARTICLE VIII** Corporate Seal and Legal Signature:

The corporate seal of this church shall contain the name of the church with the date and state of incorporation. On all legal documents requiring an official signature for the church, the signature of the chairman or of the statutory agent shall constitute the legal signature.



52 **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 53  
54 1. Protect the unity of the church by:  
55 a. Acting in love toward other members.  
56 b. Refusing to gossip.  
57 c. Following Church leaders.

58  
59 *Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual*  
60 *edification. Romans 14:19*

61  
62 *May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of*  
63 *unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus... Romans 15:5*

64  
65 *Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have*  
66 *sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.*  
67 *1 Peter 1:22*

68  
69 *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is*  
70 *helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit*  
71 *those who listen. Ephesians 4:29*

72  
73 *Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as*  
74 *men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not*  
75 *a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. Hebrews 13:17*

- 76  
77 2. Share responsibility for the church by:  
78 a. Praying for its growth and maturity.  
79 b. Inviting the unchurched to attend.  
80 c. Warmly welcoming those who visit.

81  
82 *"Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and*  
83 *make them come in, so that my house will be full. Luke 14:23*

84  
85 *Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise*  
86 *to God. Romans 15:7*

87  
88 *We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. 1*  
89 *Thessalonians 1:2*

- 90  
91 3. Serve the ministry of the church by:  
92 a. Discovering gifts and talents.  
93 b. Being equipped to serve by the pastor.  
94 c. Developing a servant's heart.

95  
96 *It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be*  
97 *evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for*  
98 *works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:11-12*

99  
100 *Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider*  
101 *others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own*

102 *interests, but also to the interests of others ... but made himself nothing, taking*  
103 *the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*  
104 *Philippians 2:3-4, 7*

105  
106 *Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully*  
107 *administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10*

- 108  
109 4. Support the testimony of the church by:  
110 a. Attending faithfully.  
111 b. Living a godly life.  
112 c. Giving regularly.

113  
114 *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let*  
115 *us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*  
116 *Hebrews 10:25*

117  
118 *Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of*  
119 *Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my*  
120 *absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man*  
121 *for the faith of the gospel. Philippians 1:27*

122  
123 *On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of*  
124 *money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no*  
125 *collections will have to be made. 1 Corinthians 16:2*

126  
127 *A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from*  
128 *the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. Leviticus 27:30*

129  
130 **MEMBERSHIP STATUS CHANGES**  
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132 The Pastor and Elders shall examine the membership roll periodically to evaluate the  
133 necessity of membership status changes. The procedure for changing membership  
134 status shall be as follows:

- 135 1. Absence: Any member who indicates a lack of interest in the ministry of the  
136 church for a period of one year or does not respond to written inquiry from the  
137 Elders shall have his membership terminated by the Elders. Written notice of said  
138 termination shall be sent to the individual.  
139 2. Discipline: Any member who is found guilty of conduct unbecoming a Christian  
140 and refuses to respond appropriately to discipline as outlined above shall have his  
141 membership terminated. The Elders, after due consideration and prayer, shall  
142 decide such termination. The reason for the terminations shall be stated in a  
143 pastoral letter to the terminated member.  
144 3. Voluntary Termination: Any member may voluntarily withdraw his membership  
145 by making written request to the church office.

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149 **CHURCH DISCIPLINE**  
150

151 In the event of persistent unrepentant sin, it will be necessary to counsel and restore  
152 the sinning Church member. If satisfactory resolution does not occur, the Elders

153 shall carry out the commands of our Lord as set forth in Matthew 18:15-17. The final  
154 step in this action, if necessary, will be the presentation of the individual to the  
155 Congregation for their prayer and counsel. If it is necessary after this, the Elders will  
156 remove the member from the church rolls.

157

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## ARTICLE II

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### CHURCH GOVERNMENT

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162

163 Since this Church uses a congregational form of government, it is the responsibility  
164 of the Congregation to put in leadership positions those men who have been gifted  
165 by the Holy Spirit to provide leadership for the Church.

166

167 Once they have been elected these men, known as Elders, will provide leadership for  
168 the total Church program.

169

170 To them are committed the responsibilities of being examples to the flock, giving the  
171 church direction, teaching the people, and leading the Congregation. Scripture  
172 implies that individuals at any level of leadership involved in decision-making as it  
173 relates to Church policy or doctrine shall be under the Elders' authority. All church  
174 officers and committee chairs shall be members in good standing of the Cornerstone  
175 Evangelical Free Church of Prescott.

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177

178

### SECTION A PASTORAL STAFF

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180

181 The Pastor(s), with the Elders, shall be responsible to "shepherd the flock of God"  
182 and give spiritual leadership to the congregation of Cornerstone Evangelical Free  
183 Church. This should be accomplished through the study, preaching and teaching of  
184 the Word of God and setting an example for the flock. They will also promote and  
185 lead the church in its central purposes of evangelism, fellowship, discipleship,  
186 ministry and worship.

187

188 A Pastor must be a man of true Christian character, sound in the faith and doctrine,  
189 and qualified to preach and teach the Word of God (II Timothy 3:17, II Timothy 4:1-5)  
190 and shall fulfill the qualifications of an Elder.

191

#### SENIOR PASTOR

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193

194 The Senior Pastor shall give leadership to the Elders and the congregation as Pastor-  
195 Teacher. He shall give primary attention to the *"equipping of the saints for the work  
196 of ministry, for the edifying (or building up) of the body of Christ"* (Ephesians 4:12).

197

- 198 1. The Senior Pastor shall be a voting member of the Elders.
- 199 2. He is accountable to the Elders and the congregation. The Elders shall evaluate  
200 his performance periodically.

201

202



203 **CALLING OF A SENIOR PASTOR**

204  
205 When a vacancy occurs, the Elders shall make temporary provisions for filling the  
206 pulpit during the vacancy, and shall activate a Pastoral Search Committee. The  
207 Pastoral Search Committee shall recommend one or more candidates to the Elders.  
208 The Elders shall consider the candidate(s) and recommend an approved candidate  
209 to the congregation. A call to the candidate shall consist of a favorable vote by at  
210 least seventy-five percent of the voting members present at a congregational  
211 business meeting held within seven days after the presentation of the candidate to  
212 the congregation. The vote shall be by secret ballot. He shall be called for an  
213 indefinite period of time. For the termination of his ministry, two months notice must  
214 be given by the Pastor, or by the church, unless waived by mutual consent of both  
215 the congregation and the Pastor. This consent by the congregation requires  
216 approval of 75% of the members present and voting.

217  
218 **PASTORAL DISCIPLINE**

219  
220 Discipline or removal of the Senior Pastor shall be in accord with the procedures set  
221 forth in Article II Section C concerning discipline or removal of an Elder. If dismissal  
222 of the Pastor is the result, the Elders must give a notice to the Pastor in writing thirty  
223 days in advance of the date of termination unless modified by mutually satisfactory  
224 arrangements. The Pastor shall be dismissed by a seventy-five percent vote of all  
225 members present at the special business meeting. In the event of resignation or  
226 dismissal of a Pastor, a two-month severance pay amount will be given unless the  
227 Elders modify this amount. Any severance pay amount greater than two months  
228 shall be approved by the membership.

229  
230 **OTHER PASTORAL STAFF**

231  
232 The church may add additional pastoral staff to meet the needs of pastoral  
233 leadership and care as the congregation grows. The Elders will determine the  
234 process for adding additional pastoral staff.  
235 1. Other pastoral staff shall work with and be a voting member of any committee as  
236 outlined in their job description, or as delegated by the Senior Pastor or the  
237 Elders.  
238 2. They shall be accountable to the Elders and report directly to the Senior Pastor.  
239 Their performance shall be evaluated regularly by the Senior Pastor.  
240 3. They shall be called for an indefinite period and may be terminated by action of  
241 the Elders.

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243  
244 **SECTION B**  
245 **NON-PASTORAL STAFF**

246  
247 Non-pastoral staff includes any paid employee other than Pastors. Job descriptions  
248 shall be maintained and include qualifications and responsibilities.

249  
250 1. All non-pastoral staff shall be hired by the Senior Pastor with the approval of the  
251 Elders. Pay and benefits shall be set at the time of employment by the Elders.

BY-LAWS

Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church

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- 252 2. Supervision and regular evaluation of non-pastoral staff shall be determined by  
253 the Senior Pastor based on the nature of the position.
- 254 3. Employment of non-pastoral staff is for an indefinite period. Resignations and  
255 terminations shall be acted upon by the Elders.

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257

**SECTION C  
ELDERS**

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259

260 The Elders shall consist of the Senior Pastor and at least three men elected by the  
261 congregation.

262

263 The number of elected Elders may be increased or decreased from time to time by  
264 the Congregation on recommendation from the Elders without amendment to the  
265 By-Laws. The number of Elders shall never be less than four. (Articles of  
266 Incorporation, Section 9).

267

268 The Elders shall lead in the spiritual oversight of the Church, aiding in and providing  
269 direction for matters related to worship, visitation, church discipline, Christian  
270 education, evangelism, pastoral ministry, and church unity. (Acts 20:28 and  
271 Ephesians 4:3)

272

273 The Elders may, at their discretion, place one Elder on any committee of the church.  
274 He shall have full voting rights.

275

**ELDER QUALIFICATIONS**

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277 Men who have been equipped and gifted by the Holy Spirit with the qualifications  
278 found in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1 will be eligible for election as an Elder. These men  
279 will also fulfill the responsibilities and duties of church members as set forth in Article  
280 I.  
281

282

**ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE**

283

284 Nominees for Elder shall be selected by the nominating committee and approved by  
285 the Elders. These nominees shall then be presented to the congregation for  
286 approval and voting thereon. A call as an Elder shall consist of a favorable vote by  
287 at least seventy-five percent of the members present and voting.  
288

289

290 The term of office shall be for one year. An Elder may succeed himself providing  
291 that he recognizes that his service has been within the will of God, and in addition,  
292 the nominating committee must concur.  
293

294

295 Accusations against an Elder shall not be considered unless supported by two or  
296 more witnesses. (I Timothy 5:19-20). Should it be proven that he has erred in  
297 doctrine or conduct, he shall be admonished in the spirit of love by the other Elders.  
298 If this does not achieve the desired effect, he shall be temporarily relieved of his post  
299 as an Elder (or as Pastor if he is the Elder in question) and the matter shall be  
brought to the attention of the congregation at a properly called business meeting.

300

301 The Elders shall choose officers annually, a Chairman and Secretary. The  
302 responsibility of the Chairman shall be to organize and facilitate the activities of the  
303 Elders and to preside at all congregational meetings. The Secretary shall keep the  
304 minutes of all Elders and Congregational meetings and be responsible for the  
305 necessary Elders records and correspondence. The Secretary of the Elders shall also  
306 function as the Corporate Secretary for all legal functions.

307  
308 The Pastor shall not serve as Chairman of the Elders at any time.  
309

## 310 **SECTION D**

### 311 **STANDING OFFICES**

312  
313  
314 The officers of this congregation shall be the Senior Pastor, the Elders (see Article II,  
315 Section C), the Treasurer, and the Financial Secretary.  
316

#### 317 **TREASURER**

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319  
320 The term of office is one year and is not limited in terms of consecutive terms. The  
321 Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- 322  
323 1. Be responsible for the disbursement and payment of all bills.  
324 2. Keep adequate records of all receipts and disbursements by account.  
325 3. Submit a monthly report to the Elders.  
326 4. Submit financial records for audit as directed.

#### 327 **FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

328  
329  
330 The term of office is one year and is not limited in terms of consecutive terms. The Financial  
331 Secretary shall have the following duties:

- 332  
333 1. Keep a detailed report of all funds received by the Church.  
334 2. Deposit and receipt all monies given to the Church.  
335 3. Submit reports to the Treasurer.  
336 4. Submit financial records for audit as directed.

## 337 **ARTICLE III**

### 338 **COMMITTEES**

#### 339 **SECTION A**

#### 340 **PERMANENT COMMITTEES**

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348 Chairmen of all permanent committees shall be elected for one year and be eligible  
349 for successive terms. All committees shall report to the Elders.

350 **1. The Nominating Committee**

351  
352 This committee shall be composed of at least four members; the Pastor, one Elder,  
353 and additional members chosen at large from the congregation and elected by the  
354 Church membership at the annual meeting. Quorums for all committee meetings  
355 shall be at least one-half of the committee membership. The nominating committee  
356 is to prepare a list of candidates for all elective offices and standing committee  
357 chairpersons to be submitted to the Elders for approval. Approved candidates are  
358 to then be presented to the congregation to be voted on.

359  
360 **2. Missions Committee**

361 This Committee shall have the responsibility of providing direction for the church  
362 family regarding missions activities under the overall direction of the Elders.  
363  
364

365  
366 **SECTION B**

367  
368 **TEMPORARY COMMITTEES**

369  
370 From time to time, special committees may be formed by the Elders for specific  
371 purposes and time periods. These committees will report to the Elders as requested.  
372 Examples of ad hoc committees are those for building, pulpit, audit and social; there  
373 may be others. The chairpersons and membership of such committees shall be  
374 appointed by the Elders.  
375  
376

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378 **ARTICLE IV**

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380 **CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS**

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382 **SECTION A**

383  
384 **BUSINESS MEETINGS**

385  
386 The annual business meeting of the Church shall be held during the month of  
387 January. Annual reports shall be received, elections held, and other business may be  
388 transacted at the annual meeting. The fiscal and business year shall end on  
389 December 31.  
390

391 One-quarter of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction  
392 of all business. All matters shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of those voting  
393 except matters covered by the Constitution and By-Laws. Voting by absentee ballot  
394 is not permitted. Only members 18 years or older will be permitted to vote.  
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**SECTION B**

**SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETINGS**

Such meetings may be called by the Elders or by notice signed by one-quarter of the voting membership. Special meetings will be organized and conducted by the Elders with only those matters to be considered that have been identified in such notices. Notice of a special meeting shall be made in the Church Bulletin for the two Sundays preceding such meeting.

**ARTICLE V**

**AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at any regular or special business meeting, provided that notification of the proposed amendment in written form has been made to each member by mail at least one month prior to such meeting. Approved amendments shall take affect immediately.

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# **Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church**

## **Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Responsibilities of Members:**

1. To pray regularly for the Church, its members, leaders, and ministries, to aid each other when need arises, to be courteous in speech, and slow to anger. (I Timothy 2:1,2, James 1:19,20).
2. To willingly submit to the leadership and discipline of the Elders of the Church, esteeming them very highly in love. (Hebrews 13:17, I Thessalonians 5:12-13).
3. To faithfully attend the services and meetings of the Church, (Hebrews 10:25), and serve in the total ministry of the Church as they have been gifted and talented by God's grace to serve Him.
4. To live a holy life according to the teachings of God's Word, refraining from that which is destructive to the Christian life and fellowship, and dishonorable to God. (Roman 14:13,21, I Timothy 4:12).
5. To financially support the Church according to the Word of God. (II Corinthians 9: 6-7).
6. To seek to be present and participate in congregational meetings.
7. To understand and follow the current Cornerstone Membership Covenant.

### **Salvation:**

- Have you personally placed your trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior?  Yes  No
- Have you been baptized as a testimony to your personal faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord?  Yes  No
- When (approximate date if you do not recall the exact date): \_\_\_\_\_  
Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine you are standing before Jesus Christ and He asked you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" How would you answer? (Please answer on the back of this page; complete the Testimony Template also)

### **Request for Membership:**

*I have read the Constitution, By-Laws and Statement of Faith and I am in agreement with them.*  Yes  No

*Having received Jesus Christ as my personal Savior, and committing myself to fulfilling the responsibilities of a member (as outlined above) through the grace and power of our Lord Jesus Christ, I hereby apply to become a membership of Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application

|   |
|---|
| <b>Office Records:</b>                            |
| Interviewed by Elders: ____/____/____             |
| Publicly received into membership: ____/____/____ |

# **Cornerstone Membership Covenant**

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Protect the unity of the church by:
  - a. Acting in love toward other members.
  - b. Refusing to gossip.
  - c. Following Church leaders.

*Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Romans 14:19*

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus... Romans 15:5*

*Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.  
1 Peter 1:22*

*Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Ephesians 4:29*

*Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an 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*

2. Share responsibility for the church by:
  - a. Praying for its growth and maturity.
  - b. Inviting the unchurched to attend.
  - c. Warmly welcoming those who visit.

*Then the master told his servant, "Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full." Luke 14:23*

*Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7*

*We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.  
1 Thessalonians 1:2*

3. Serve the ministry of the church by:
  - a. Discovering gifts and talents.
  - b. Being equipped to serve by the pastor.
  - c. Developing a servant's heart.

*It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and 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*

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others ... but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Philipians 2:3-4, 7*

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10*

4. Support the testimony of the church by:
  - a. Attending faithfully.
  - b. Living a godly life.
  - c. Giving regularly.

*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:25*

*Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel. Philipians 1:27*

*On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come, no collections will have to be made. 1 Corinthians 16:2*

*A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. Leviticus 27:30*

## **MEMBERSHIP STATUS CHANGES**

The Pastor and Elders shall examine the membership roll periodically to evaluate the necessity of membership status changes. The procedure for changing membership status shall be as follows:

1. Absence: Any member who indicates a lack of interest in the ministry of the church for a period of one year or does not respond to written inquiry from the Elders shall have his membership terminated by the Elders. Written notice of said termination shall be sent to the individual.
2. Discipline: Any member who is found guilty of conduct unbecoming a Christian and refuses to respond appropriately to discipline as outlined above shall have his membership terminated. The Elders, after due consideration and prayer, shall decide such termination. The reason for the terminations shall be stated in a pastoral letter to the terminated member.
3. Voluntary Termination: Any member may voluntarily withdraw his membership by making written request to the church office.



## CHURCH DISCIPLINE

In the event of persistent unrepentant sin, it will be necessary to counsel and restore the sinning Church member. If satisfactory resolution does not occur, the Elders shall carry out the commands of our Lord as set forth in Matthew 18:15-17. The final step in this action, if necessary, will be the presentation of the individual to the Congregation for their prayer and counsel. If it is necessary after this, the Elders will remove the member from the church rolls.

I have read and understand the above items stated in the By-Laws concerning membership responsibilities and agree by God's grace to fulfill them.

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Signature of applicant

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Date

# **Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church**

## **Member Information Survey**

The following information is requested to help us get to know you and shepherd you as a member.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Members of the immediate family (please list relationship & age):

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

### **Previous Membership:**

Name and contact information of former church: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Were you previously a member of this church? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Did you leave on good terms? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If no, please explain:

At Cornerstone we believe that ministry is using whatever God had given me to serve Him and the needs of others. We believe that every believer is called to be a minister for Christ. Therefore, we feel that part of our shepherding responsibility to you is to help you find a meaningful place of service in the body of Christ. The following questions are designed to help us in fulfilling that responsibility.

What **desire/passion** for ministry has God placed in your heart?

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What ministries are of **interest** to you? (i.e., Evangelism, Community Groups, Youth, Children, Worship, Greeter/Welcome, etc.)

- ---
- ---
- ---
- ---

What **experience** in the ministry has the Lord allowed you to have?

- ---
- ---
- ---

What **spiritual gifts** do you believe that you have received from the Lord?

- ---
- ---
- ---

What ministries have you become involved in at Cornerstone Church?

- ---
- ---
- ---

What else would you like to tell us about who you are, that might help us in ministering to you and helping you to find a place of meaningful service?

