



Olive Branch Baptist Church • 205 S. Dalton • Valliant, OK 74764
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Dr. Burnis Burrell, Jr. Pastor

New Members Orientation

Church Motto:

"Reaching the Lost & Teaching the Saved."

Vision

To become a loving and caring congregation; looking out for the Spiritual, Physical and Mental well -being of our Church family and the community.

Scripture Reference: And Jehovah answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tablets, that he may run that readeth it.
(Habakkuk 2:2)

Word Definition:

Loving = Affectionate relationship demonstrated by hugging and warm handshakes.

Caring = A heavy sense of responsibility as demonstrated by parent's care for a child.

Spiritual = Non-Physical, the part of an individual that engages in the worship of God.

Physical = Bodily, tangible, earthly.

Mental = Mind, the part of an individual that feels, perceives, thinks, wills, and especially reasons.

Ministries in place to look out for our spiritual wellbeing:

Sunday school: The Sunday School is the evangelistic department of the church with the purpose of reaching the lost and teaching the saved the word of God.

Goal: to enroll each member in the Sunday school and seek to gain non-church affiliated members of our community.

Sunday Worship Service: The purpose of the Sunday Worship Service is to give each attendee an opportunity to worship God in a cooperative manner. The entire service is designed to praise and worship God.

Goal: to encourage each member to attend on a regular basis.

Ministries in place to look out after our physical wellbeing:

WMU- The purpose of this ministry is to unite the women of the church and raise a higher standard for Christian women through training and education, and to contribute to the support of home and foreign missions.

Goal: enlist each lady and girl in the WMU and GA's

Laymen- The purpose of this ministry is to unite the men of the church and raise a higher standard for Christian men through training and education, and to contribute to the support of home and foreign missions.

Goal: enlist each man and boy in the Laymen's and RA's

Ministries in place to look out for our mental well-being:

Counseling: The purpose of this ministry is to counsel with members who are having difficulty coping with the pressures of everyday life; grief; abuse; depression, etc. The pastor at this time is the authorized counselor, but the member is free to consult anyone they feel comfortable with to discuss their problem.

Goal: to provide a listening ear to members and community who may need someone to talk to in confidence.

Ministry in place to look out for our spiritual, physical, and mental well-being:

Brother's Keepers Ministry: The purpose of this ministry is to look out for the spiritual, physical, and mental well-being of our church family and extender families.

Brother's Keepers Ministry

Purpose: Minister to the Physical, Spiritual, and Mental needs of the Church Family.

Structure:

- Each deacon will lead an individual group. He is the first line of contact.
- Each group will have an initial meeting to decide upon meeting schedules/guidelines for group.
- Each group will designate a secretary.
- Each group will designate benevolent chairperson.
- The group will be responsible for notifying the benevolent chairperson of any need that is presented in their group.
- The benevolent person will have the responsibility of notifying the authorized personnel to purchase flowers, food, etc.
- When a need is presented – action is to be taken immediately.

Benefits of Brother's Keepers Ministry:

- Individuals' need are met in a timely manner.
- Enhance Church Fellowship
- Families will be blessed and be a blessing to others.
- Families will work collectively and in a cooperative manner.
- Family members will find support in times of crisis.
- Family members will think of their church as loving and caring church family.
- Family members will find greater joy in participating in ministry and church programs.
- Fewer members will be lost in inactivity.
- Individual families will be strengthened and as a result the church as a whole will be strengthened.

Note: We will be a purpose driven congregation and should have a purpose for all that we deem necessary to engage our time and efforts.

I. THE NEED of a NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

- 1. To help assure the church that each member understands the nature of the covenant relationship he/she is entering and that he/she is committed to it whole heartedly.**
- 2. To help each member gain a basic understanding of and commitment to the specific privileges of membership in the church.**
- 3. To help each new member become a growing participant in the life and ministry of the Olive Branch Baptist Church, so that he/she may be an effective Christian witness and worker for Jesus Christ through his Church.**

A. The Church's "Common Concerns"

- 1. You and your family.**
- 2. Meeting your needs. (Spiritual, Physical, & Mental)**
- 3. Improving your knowledge of the Bible. (S/S & BTU)**
- 4. Your relationship with Jesus Christ.(Improve as you grow)**

II. THE CONVERSION EXPERIENCE (Precedes Church membership)

- A. Conversion involves Repentance (Turning from sin to God) Acts 17:30**
- B. Conversion involves Faith- Romans 10: 9-10**
- C. Conversion results in a new person- II Corinthians 5:17**

How Can I Know I've been Converted (Born Again)?

- 1. Is there a willingness to learn? I Peter 2:2**
- 2. Is there a concern for personal morality and righteousness? I Peter 1:14- 16**
- 3. Is there a real difference about the way in which one's life has been changed? John 9:25**
- 4. Is there a genuine love and concern for others? I John 3:14**
- 5. Is there a deep and continuing desire to know and follow the will of Christ? Ephesians 5:17**
- 6. Is there an inward witness of the Holy Spirit? Romans 8:16**
- 7. Do you follow the Pastor's leadership? (Acts 2:41-42)**

III. CHRISTIAN GROWTH (How Does One Grow?)

- A. Be sure of your salvation in Christ. (I John 5:13)**
- B. Unite with a church. (Acts 2:47)**
- C. Cultivate your life through Prayer and Bible Study. (Luke 18:1, II Timothy 2:15)**
- D. Take your Christian fellowship seriously. (Hebrews 10:25)**
- E. Separate yourself from the world. (II Corinthians 5:17-18)**

- F. Cultivate and use your gifts (talents) for the building up of fellow believers. (Ephesians 4:11-12) Gifts are given to prepare one another for service to build up the body.
- G. Be honest with God in the use of your money (II Cor. 9:6-7; Mal.3:8-12)
- H. Practice Self-Control. (I Corinthians 9:27)
- I. Let Jesus be your model. (I Peter 2:21)
- J. Live your commitment to Christ one day at a time. (Matt. 6:34)
- K. Seek the counsel and help of your Pastor and Christian friends. (Proverbs 11:14)
- L. Win others to Christ. (Matthew 4:19)

IV. THE MEANING OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP - PART I

- A. The Origin of the Church (Matthew 16:18, Acts 2:1-4)
- B. The Pictures of the Church
 - 1. Building (II Corinthians 6:16)
 - 2. Bride (II Corinthians 11:2)
 - 3. Body
 - (a) The body and its members (I Corinthians 12:12)
 - (b) The need of cooperation of all members (I Cor. 12:21)
 - (c) The weak ones are in need of strength from the strong ones. (I Corinthians 12:26)
 - (d) The different areas of service rendered in the church. (I Corinthians 12:28)
- C. The Influence of the Church
 - 1. The salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13)
 - 2. The Light of the World (Matthew 5:14)
- D. The Purpose of the Church
 - 1. To witness for Christ, the Son of God (Acts 1:8) To Be Proclaiming
 - 2. The Church must have an upper room experience to have power (Acts 1:12-14) To Be Powerful
 - 3. The Church must be on one accord if its prayers are to be heard (Acts 2:1-4,6) To Be Praying
 - 4. The Church must make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20) To Be Processing.

V. THE MEANING OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP - PART II

A. THE CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body of Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and

doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to see the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings; faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger, to abstain from the sale of and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another,-in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some church, where we can carry, out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

THE BASIS OF THE CHURCH COVENANT

I. Salvation and Baptism (Matthew 28:19-20)

II. Duties of the Church

- 1. To walk together in Christian love (John 13:34-35)**
- 2. To strive for the advancement of the church in knowledge and Holiness (2 Corinthian 7:1, 2 Peter 3:11).**
- 3. To sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrine (Hebrew 10:25, Jude 3).**
- 4. To give it pre-eminence in my life (Matthew 6:33)**
- 5. To contribute cheerfully and regularly (I Cor. 16:2)**
- 6. To carry my membership when I remove myself from this church (Acts 18:27)**

III. Duties in Personal Christian Living

- 1. To maintain family and secret devotions (Acts 17:11).**
- 2. To religiously educate our children (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)**
- 3. To seek the salvation of the lost (Proverbs 11:30).**
- 4. To walk circumspectly in the world, and to be just in our dealings (Ephesians 5:15).**
- 5. To avoid gossip and excessive anger (Ephesians 4:31), Colossians 3:8, 1 Peter 2:21)**
- 6. To abstain from sale or use of liquors (Eph. 5:18, Heb. 2:15).**
- 7. To be zealous in our efforts for Christ (Titus 2:14).**

IV. Duties to Fellow Members

- 1.To watch over one another in love (Acts 20:28).**
- 2.To pray for one another (James 5:16):**
- 3.To aid in sickness and distress (Gal. 6:2, James 2:14-17).**
- 4.To cultivate sympathy and courtesy (1 Peter 3:8).**
- 5.To be slow to take offense, always ready for reconciliation (Matthew 18:15, Ephesians 4:30-32).**

Church membership brings us great opportunities. These include opportunity for fellowship in the finest company that can be found and opportunity for Christian growth, development, and training through the various departments of the Church. We have an opportunity for Christian service through the church in the name of Christ to those at home and around the globe.

Membership places upon us an inescapable obligation, an obligation to make the church and its work a priority in our lives. It is an obligation to use our time and our talents for the Glory of God, and obligation to support the work with our presence, our influence, and our means.

We see then that membership is a privilege and an opportunity that entails great obligation.

Name: _____

Date: _____