Austin Bluffs
Evangelical Free Church

Membership Application

Applicant's Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City, State, and Zip: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Birthdate: _____

1. Marital Status (Check one): ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Widowed

   Maiden Name: _____ Anniversary: _____

   If divorced or separated, please explain:

   _____

   _____

   _____

2. Names of children in your family living at home and dates of birth:

   _____ _____

   _____ _____

   _____ _____

3. Have you trusted in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

   What changes in attitudes, desires, or conduct have you observed since you professed faith in Christ?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   If you were to die right now, what would happen to you and why?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   Who is Jesus Christ?

   _____

   _____

   _____

4. Have you been baptized since your profession of faith in Christ? ☐ Yes ☐ No

   When and where?

   _____

   If not, please explain why.

   _____

   _____

5. How do you maintain your walk with God?

   _____

   _____

   _____

6. How long have you been attending Austin Bluffs Church and for what reason did you first attend?

   _____

   _____

   _____

7. How did you hear about our church?

   _____

8. Name and address of the church where you are presently a member and how long:

   Name of Church: _____

   Address of Church: _____

   City, State, and Zip: _____

   Date: _____ to _____ Phone: _____

   Why did you leave your former church?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   What were your ministries there?

   _____

   _____

9. Why do you want to join Austin Bluffs Church?

   _____

   _____

   _____

10. Have you thoroughly read our Statement of Faith? ☐ Yes ☐ No

    Do you understand and agree with it? ☐ Yes ☐ No

    If there is any area of misunderstanding or disagreement, please state briefly what it is:

    _____

    _____

11. Are you presently under discipline at any other church? ☐ Yes ☐ No

    If yes, please explain:

    _____

    _____

12. In what area of ministry within Austin Bluffs Church do you plan on becoming involved?

    A. _____

    B. _____

13. Do you attend a Sunday morning adult fellowship group? ☐ Yes ☐ No

    If so, which one?

    _____

Member Covenant (Please read and sign at the end)

Having been chosen by God and drawn by the Spirit to receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior, I now, having been baptized by water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, do joyfully enter into this covenant with the members of this church as one body in Christ, according to the following affirmations and commitments.

I believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the Word of God, and its doctrine of salvation to be the perfect and only true doctrine of salvation.

I acknowledge myself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His wrath, and without hope except in God's sovereign love and mercy to save me.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, the only Savior of sinners, and receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered to me in the Gospel.

I resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that I will endeavor to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ by putting to death the misdeeds of my sinful nature and to live my life as is fitting a true follower of Jesus Christ and to help others do the same.

I promise to support the church in its purpose and ministry to the best of my ability.

I submit myself to the government of the church, and promise to pursue its purity and peace.

I submit myself to the discipline of the church and will persevere in church discipline until those in leadership determine that the disciplinary process should come to an end.

Finally, I have received and read the church's bylaws, and I hereby covenant and agree to support and submit to them.

_____ Date: _____

Applicant's Signature

_____ Date: _____

Elder's Signature

ABEFC Statement of Faith

[Please Retain for Your Records]

1. **God -** 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.

2. **The Bible** - 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.

3. **The Human Condition** - We believe that 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.

4. **Jesus Christ** - 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.

5. **The Work of Christ** - 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.

6. **The Holy Spirit** - 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.

7. **The Church** - 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.

8. **Christian Living -** 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.

9. **Christ's Return** - We believe in the personal, bodily and pre-millennial 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.

10. **Response and Eternal Destiny** - 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.

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