



*inspiring people to say 'yes' to Jesus*

# MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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### **We demonstrate Loving by...**

Loving each other in God's love through spiritual, emotional and practical action. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35

### **We demonstrate Inspiring by...**

Spurring one another on, applying our gifts of service, inspiring others to express their Spiritual gifts. Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24



### **We demonstrate Going by...**

Going and making disciples, inviting people into a relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20

### **We demonstrate Living by...**

Devoting ourselves to Christ's way of living with other believers, through authentic discipleship. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42



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## By way of introduction

*In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."*

*This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.*

*So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. (Acts 6:1-7)*

As a body of believers seeking to serve Jesus Christ, we often need to make decisions such as the appointment of leaders; discerning together where God is leading us collectively in ministry; or administering resources and finances.

The aim of this information is to help us gain an understanding of what is involved in being a member of Como Baptist Church; and to prayerfully consider your response.

## How is Como Baptist Church governed?

A member of the Baptist Churches Western Australia, Como Baptist Church Inc. is a self-governing and self funded church, with its own constitution and membership.

Whilst we are firstly guided by Scripture, we are also required to live within the laws of Australia. The Constitution provides us with a framework which meets both Australian law, and Biblical grace. Como Baptist Church Inc. is an Incorporated Association. The Constitution documents our:

- Affiliation with Baptist Churches WA
- Statement of Faith: our core beliefs
- Purposes
- Ordinances
- Governance: who can make decisions, quorums, elections etc

The constitution also details the role of the membership. In summary:

- Membership is the name given to the group of people who have committed to serve together, accepting the Statement of Faith, and submitting themselves to Christ and discerning His will.
- The membership normally meets twice per year: in May for the Annual Plan and Budget, and the AGM in Oct/Nov. Additional meetings (Special Members Meetings) are called if there are decisions that the Members need to determine.
- There are also two 'forums' per year—opportunities to dream, hear and consider a particular ministry, or focus area.
- The membership elect an Eldership who are responsible for the oversight and management of the church.
- The Executive is made up of the elected Elders, appointed Ministry Leaders and the Senior Pastors.
- The membership is the final authority under Christ for decision making.

## Who can be a Member?

Believers who profess faith in Jesus Christ;; give evidence of this in daily life; who take the Scripture as their all-sufficient guide for faith and practice; and who have been baptised by immersion can apply to be members of Como Baptist Church.

## What do I commit to?

Members are expected to demonstrate a life that is lived according to the principles of the New Testament; and to support the ministry and maintain the fellowship of the church by:

- Prayer
- Attendance at services
- Engaging in service through the church
- Share in the governance of the church through member's meetings
- Conscientious giving as God's provision enables.

## So what now?

### **Read the constitution.**

Copies are available from the church office. If you have any questions regarding the constitution, or the Statement of Faith, please contact either the Pastors, or one of the Elders.

### **Complete the Prospective Members Form.**

This helps us know a little more about how God has worked in your life, and explores the requirements for members to commit to : Salvation, Spiritual Growth, Small Group, Service and Stewardship. Return the form to either the Church Secretary, or one of the Elders.

### **Participate in a Membership Interview.**

The Elders will appoint two current members to visit and discuss your spiritual journey. This will also provide you with any opportunity to ask any questions regarding the Constitution, or church life.

### **Receive endorsement from the members meeting.**

If there are no issues needing further attention, the interviewers will present a report to the next Members' Meeting recommending that the prospective member be received into membership.

Following endorsement by the Members, the prospective member will be informed and welcomed into membership at the next Communion service.

# PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS FORM

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## STEPS TO BECOMING A MEMBER

### 1. Read the Church Constitution

Copies of this are available from the church office. The Constitution contains the Doctrinal Statement of the church and other important information about the purpose and practise of the church and the responsibilities of members.

### 2. Complete the Prospective Members Form

The purpose of this form is to gather background information about a prospective member's conversion and commitment.

### 3. Participate in a Membership Interview

Two current members will be asked to visit a prospective member to discuss with them their spiritual journey and to answer any questions they may have about the Constitution or church life. Any difficult issues are referred to the Pastoral Team.

### 4. Receive endorsement from the members meeting

If there are no issues needing further attention, the interviewers will present a report to the next Members' Meeting recommending that the prospective member be received into membership. Following endorsement by the Members, the prospective member will be informed and then welcomed into membership at a worship service.

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Occupation	
Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed

## CHURCH BACKGROUND

How long have you attended Como Baptist Church?	
Before you came to Como, were you attending another church?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Name of church: <input type="checkbox"/> No
What led you to come to Como? (optional)	

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENTS

There are five basic commitments which we believe devoted followers of Jesus need to make. Please respond to the following statements as you prayerfully work through these essential membership commitments.

### SALVATION

I have been saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ

- ☐ Yes  
☐ Unsure  
☐ No

Give a brief account of how you came to faith in Christ:

I have been baptised by immersion as a believer

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Year of baptism:  
Place:

I am committed to playing my part in sharing with others the Good News of Salvation through Jesus Christ

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

I am comfortable sharing Christ with others by:

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

I am committed to growing to become more like Jesus and to putting in place in my life those practices that help me to keep closely connected to Him

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

I have found the following practices help to nurture and nourish my relationship with Jesus:

I am committed to participating in regular corporate worship at CBC.

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Are there any special reasons why you are not in a position to participate in regular worship?

SMALL GROUPS	
I am an active participant in a Como Baptist Small Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes      Leader's name: <input type="checkbox"/> I want to join a group <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there any special reasons why you are not in a position to join a group at this time?	

SERVICE	
I am committed to discovering and using the gifts God has given me to serve in his Church	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
I am currently involved in the following ministries:	
I have previously been involved in:	
I believe I have the following spiritual gifts:	
Other talents and skill I have are:	

STEWARDSHIP	
I understand that everything I have belongs to God, and I am committed to being a good caretaker of the resources he has entrusted to me. Because of that I will generously and cheerfully support the life and ministry of Como Baptist with my regular financial gifts, recognising that the tithe (often understood as 10% of one's earnings) is the historic standard of giving in Scripture.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

APPLICATION COMMITMENT	
It is my desire to make these five commitments part of my lifestyle	
Signed	
Date	



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