



St Mark's
P L U M S T E A D

**MEMBERSHIP
AGREEMENT**

Hebrews 3 ¹² See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 10 ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another —and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Ephesians 4 ¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

The bible encourages all who confess faith and repentance in Jesus Christ to become an active part of a local gathering of believers.

It is through such regular involvement in a local church that Christians are given opportunities to use their gifts in service for the building up of the body of Christ on earth. Furthermore, formal membership in a local church allows us to guard each other from turning away from the living God and being hardened by sin's deceitfulness, through keeping each other accountable and exercising church discipline where necessary.

Therefore, church membership is an important decision that should not be taken lightly, because by becoming a member of St. Mark's Plumstead, you are agreeing to be held accountable to the following:

Having confessed faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour for the forgiveness of my sins, and having been baptized,

I now agree by God's gracious help, as a member of St. Mark's Plumstead...

1) To contribute to the LIFE OF THE CHURCH through frequent attendance at Sunday gatherings, members meetings, prayer meetings, and a weekly bible study. (Heb 3:13, 10:25)

2) To strive for UNITY IN THE CHURCH by *"making every effort to live in peace with everyone"* (Heb 12:14), by loving other Christians as Christ has loved me (John 13:34), by refraining from gossip or slander and being peaceable and considerate to others (Titus 3:2), and by regularly praying for other Christians (1 Thes 5:17).

3) To pursue the PURITY OF THE CHURCH and endeavor, with God's help, to *"throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and run with perseverance the race marked out for us"* (Heb 12:1) by, amongst other things,

a) not allowing myself to fall under the influence of recreational drugs or alcohol, but rather striving to be filled with the spirit through regular spiritual disciplines. (Eph 5:18)

b) *"keeping the marriage bed holy"* (Heb 13:4) and striving for *"no hint of sexual immorality"* (Eph 5:3) in my life by abstaining from any sexual activity outside of a biblically-sanctioned marriage relationship.

4) To support the MISSION OF THE CHURCH by ascertaining my spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:7) and using them to serve the activities of the church (Eph 4:12), by being equipped by the pastors and teachers for works of service (Eph 4:12), by giving regularly of my money to the expenses of the church and the support of mission work (2 Cor 9:6-15), by praying for the proclamation of the gospel (Col 4:2-3), by inviting other people to church, and by always being ready to give an answer to everyone who asks me for the reason for the hope that I have (1 Peter 3:15).

5) To submit to the AUTHORITY OF THE CHURCH by submitting to the Church Council and Pastors and the leadership of the REACH South Africa denomination, heeding their warnings (Matt 18:15-18) and by not teaching anything contrary to biblical doctrine as summarized in the Apostles' Creed, the 1662 Prayer Book and the 39 Articles of faith of the Church of England in South Africa.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Name (print): _____