

Explaining Membership

Membership

If you have decided that HCC has become the place you call home rather than just the place you attend church, Membership could be what God has next for you.

Members are how we refer to those people who feel called by God to HCC and have committed to serve and take on responsibility in a more intentional way.

Membership is significant and essential to the life of HCC, Members have input in all key decision making at HCC and therefore we have straightforward <u>commitments</u> and <u>priorities</u> in place that all Members agree to uphold and be accountable in.

At HCC we organise ourselves around our three <u>core</u> <u>discipleship practices</u> of Communion, Community and Commission and ask that our core members weave these practices into their everyday lives.

HCC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the declaration of principle is included in this leaflet as part of what HCC Members adhere to.

it is not so much that God has a mission for his church in the world, but that God has a church for his mission in the world" -David Bosch

Commitments, Priorities and Practices

COMMITTED TO ...

- · Open acknowledgement of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.
- Living an intentional lifestyle of worship.
- Actively participating in the "Mission of God".
- Faithfully and practically show love and honour to all those who call HCC home and to the wider body of Christ.

KEY PRIORITIES...

- Active participation in HCC gatherings such as Sunday and midweek services, prayer meetings and special events.
- Active participation in Church Forums.
- Regular financial giving into the ministry of HCC.
- Active participation in a "Gospel Community" or "Fellowship Group"

Communion

How we live with upward focus, deepening our experience and knowledge of God.

COMMUNION: By this we mean our intentional focus on the relationship we have with God through Jesus Christ. Through the leading of the Holy Spirit and study of the bible we can develop our personal relationships with God.

Community

How we live <u>in</u> an open, inclusive and empowering way together as family.

COMMUNITY: We believe that living in community is God's intention for us as people. We are committed to developing inclusive community where we live. We believe that "The Kingdom" Jesus talked so much about is the key to healthy communities.

Co-Mission

How we live <u>out</u> the "mission of God" in both intentional and spontaneous ways.

Co-Mission: Jesus' mission is to reconnect people with God and to show people what God is really like. As people following Jesus we are intentional about helping people find their way back to God. If we do a good job we will bring love, kindness, joy, hope and peace. Jesus' mission has become our mission.

Declaration of Principle

THE BASIS OF THE BAPTIST UNION IS:

- 1. That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each Church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.
- 2. That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again the third day'.
- 3. That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.



Next Steps

At HCC we are serious about following Jesus, and we are thrilled you are praying about becoming a Member and joining us on this incredible journey.

Membership is open to "born again" Christians who have been baptised as described in the "declaration of principle" or who have been christened and confirmed in another Christian denomination and have been attending HCC regularly for at least three months.

To apply for membership **please click here.**

If you have further questions, please feel free to ask either in person or by sending us an email to info@hcclife.net

We pray that the Holy Spirit will fill you afresh and guide you as seek Gods voice.

Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.""

-Matthew 28:18-20 NIV