

GET TO KNOW US



GATEWAY MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE



About Membership at Gateway

While “church member” is a term that is never mentioned in the Bible, the Bible frequently uses many illustrations to describe how Christians are meant to live in community (a household - Eph 2:19; a body - 1 Cor 12:12-31, a living temple - 1 Pet 2:4-5). These images all highlight a simple reality - God created us for community. When a believer becomes a member of a particular church, they are making a covenant before God to become a participating member of the church body.

You are not required to become a member to be actively involved at Gateway Alliance Church, but by becoming a member you are officially joining the Gateway family.

Membership at Gateway is a one-year commitment that must be renewed annually in February. To continue your membership, all members are required to respond to the Membership Renewal form, and vote in the AGM.

To be a member at Gateway, you must fulfill the following Membership Requirements:

1. Be 18 years of age or older
2. Have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
3. Have been baptized in water at some point in your life
4. Complete Step One of the Gateway Next Program
5. Submit Either:
 - a. A completed copy of the Gateway Membership Application Form **or**
 - b. A Valid Transfer of Membership from another Alliance Church

All members are also required to:

1. Commit to and accept the Alliance Membership Agreement (available at gateway.ac/membership-agreement) and the Gateway Membership Covenant (available at the end of this document)
2. Annually participate in the Membership Renewal Process (sent via email in January)

Membership Process:

If you want to become a member of Gateway Alliance Church, here is a simple check-list to work through in order to begin the membership process:

- 1. Attend Step One of the Gateway NEXT Program
- 2. Read through the Gateway Membership Covenant and the Alliance Membership Agreement
- 3. Complete one of the following:
 - a. Complete the Gateway Membership Application Form (available at gateway.ac/membership-application) **or**
 - b. If you are already a member at another church, ask them to send a letter of membership transfer on their church letterhead to membership@gateway.ac, stating your desire to transfer your membership.

Once you have completed these three steps, your application will be reviewed by the Gateway Board prior to final approval. If approved, you can expect to receive an email welcoming you as a member of Gateway Alliance Church.

Membership Renewal

Membership at Gateway is a one-year commitment that must be renewed annually in January. To continue as a member of Gateway, each individual must:

- 1. Fill out the Membership Renewal Form sent out annually in January
- 2. Continue to uphold the Membership Covenant & Agreement, as indicated through participation in the AGM Vote

Any standing member who fails to participate in these steps will be considered “inactive” and will have to apply to have their membership reinstated.

Inactive Membership

An inactive member is defined as any member who either:

1. Fails to participate in the Membership Renewal form **OR**
2. Indicates that they would like to withdraw their membership from Gateway for an acceptable reason, such as for a specific period of time due to an inability to attend Gateway's services

Inactive membership will be unable to receive any of the Membership Benefits listed below.

To renew their membership, an inactive member must contact the membership team via email at membership@gateway.ac and ask that their membership be reinstated. All membership reinstatement requests must provide a valid reason for their membership to be reinstated.

Membership Benefits

Members at Gateway will receive the following two benefits:

1. Eligibility to vote in the AGM
2. Eligibility to serve on the Gateway Board or the Gateway Elders team

Gateway Membership Covenant

Our Covenant to You

As your leaders, we commit to:

- Be welcoming, loving and compassionate towards you in all that we do
- Empower you to participate in the works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up (Eph. 4:12-13)
- Remaining obedient to the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit in all that we do (Gal. 5:16-18, 22-25)
- Developing a trustworthy leadership team that submits to the authority of God's Word (1 Tim 3:1-13, 1 Peter 5:1-7)
- Carefully maintaining and preserving robust systems to protect the safety and integrity of the church
- Setting an example for you in speech, life, love, faith and purity (1 Tim. 4:12)
- Accurately teaching the Word of God (2 Tim. 2:15)
- Hold one another to the Gateway Standards of Leadership (available at gateway.ac/standards)

Your Covenant to Gateway

I affirm that I have received Christ as my Lord and Savior, I have been baptized in water, and I am in agreement with the values and vision of Gateway Alliance Church, as presented during the Gateway Next Program. As such, I feel led by the Holy Spirit to become a member of the Gateway family. In doing so, I am willing to make the following commitment to God and my fellow church members:

1. I commit to protecting the unity of my church by...

- a. Making my own spiritual growth a priority by seeking to nurture a personal, close, obedient & loving friendship with the Lord (John 15:4-11, Phil. 4:6-7)
- b. Acting in a loving, welcoming and honoring manner at all times, treating others fairly and with respect (Luke 6:27-36, Rom. 12:10)
- c. Following, supporting and praying for the leadership and governance of the church (Hebrews 13:7, 17, 1 Pet. 5:5), while remaining open to input, challenge & correction (Prov. 15:32, Matthew 18:15-20)

2. I commit to sharing the responsibility of my church by...

- a. Praying regularly for its growth and health
- b. Embodying the vision and core values of Gateway, conducting myself in a welcoming (Rom. 15:7), empowering (1 Cor. 10:23-24) and spirit-led manner (Gal. 5:16-18, 22-25)
- c. Inviting others who are not a part of a church to attend (Matt. 28:19-20, Luke 14:23)

3. I commit to serving the ministry of my church by...

- a. Discovering my god-given gifts and talents and using those gifts to make a difference in the lives of others (1 Peter 4:10, Eph, 4:11-12)
- b. Developing a servant heart (Phil. 2:4-8, Gal. 5:13-14, Mark 10:43-45)
- c. Participating annually in the AGM Voting process

4. I will support the testimony of my church by...

- a. Contributing regularly to the support of the congregation in the form of tithes & offerings (2 Cor. 9:6-12, Acts 4:34-35), time & attendance (Acts 2:42, Heb.10:25)
- b. Living my life in a way that reflects the love of Jesus to all people (Matt. 5:13-16, Phil. 1:27), willingly abstaining from sexual misconduct (Matt. 5:27-28, 20:4-6, Heb. 13:4), intoxication (Luke 21:34, 1 Cor. 6:12), deceit (Ex. 20:16, Eph. 4:29), and materialism (Matt. 6:19-24, 1 Tim. 6:17-19)

For more information on the particulars of these commitments, please see our Standards of Leadership, available at gateway.ac/standards



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