

## NEXT: MEMBERSHIP

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 | ROMANS 12:5

### **When you're ready to commit to being a part of the life, ministry and impact of this church family, your next step is membership.**

While you won't read about formal church membership in the New Testament, we believe that it holds so much value for the local church and in the life of the believer.

1. In a culture that is notoriously low-commitment, membership makes a bold statement that you are committed to the local church.
2. Membership sets the standard in your home and with your family that active participation and engagement with the wider church family is vitally important to your spiritual development and to our collective ability to impact the world for Christ.
3. Membership facilitates mutual accountability among the believers in the church. You agree to make yourself accountable to the Body while you also agree to hold others accountable - all in truth and grace.
4. Becoming a member gives you a voice in the decisions that the local church makes. You get to be a part of the discussion and prayerfully consider different aspects of the life of the church.
5. Maintaining a healthy membership allows us to operate with integrity and full compliance as a registered charity in Canada.
6. We can do far more when we are working together and committed to a common vision and mission than we could ever do alone.

Here are some scriptures about being a healthy, active and committed part of the Body of Christ that are helpful:

*1 Corinthians 12:12-31*

*Romans 12:3-13*

*Hebrews 13:17*

*Hebrews 10:23-25*

*1 Peter 5:1-6*

*Ephesians 4:11-16*

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”  
*1 Corinthians 12:27*

## MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

### Steps to Membership

- Acknowledge Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of your life.
- Be baptized in water (or be open to it).
- Regularly attend church services and be involved in the life of the church through serving and giving.
- Live in harmony with the Freedom Church family.
- Read and agree with our statement of faith (see attached and "PAOC Statement of Essential Truths").
- Read and agree to abide by Freedom Church's Incorporation By-Law, vision, mission and core values and Lifestyle & Morality Standards (attached).
- Prayerfully and openly support the pastors and leaders.
- Live a Christ-like lifestyle every day as a representative of His Kingdom and of the Freedom Church family.
- Complete and submit a membership application (attached or available at [freedomkw.com/membership](http://freedomkw.com/membership)).
- Be open to meeting with a staff member or deacon to discuss your application.
- Completed applications will be reviewed at the next available Board of Deacons meeting. Applicants will then be contacted regarding the status of the application.
- Once approved, members are invited to participate in the Annual Business Meeting (typically in March) and any other special business meeting that might be called.
- Approved members are eligible to nominate candidates for the Board of Deacons and be nominated (annually in January).

"So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

*Romans 12:5*

"Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

*Ephesians 4:15-16*

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

### **Freedom in Christ Church is affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.**

You can find our entire Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths at:  
**[paoc.org/family/what-we-believe](http://paoc.org/family/what-we-believe)**

**GOD:** We believe that there is one God who eternally exists in three personalities: God the Father, Jesus Christ God's Son and God the Holy Spirit. God the Father is the creator and source of all things who sustains and rules over creation with mercy and justice from his throne in heaven. Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God who was sent to earth from heaven by the Father to live as a human being and die as the sacrificial substitute for man's sin. Jesus was born of a virgin, was fully human yet did not sin, was fully God but laid aside his divine rights, died on a cross and rose from the dead. Jesus ascended back into heaven and sits at the Father's right hand until he returns one more time to earth to establish his eternal kingdom with all those who have believed in him as Lord and Saviour. The Holy Spirit was sent from heaven by the Father and Son to live in every believer in Jesus Christ as a helper, teacher and guide. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to be witnesses of Christ and gives gifts of grace for ministry and worship. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin and leads people to faith in Jesus.

**THE BIBLE:** We believe that the Bible, consisting of both the Old and New Testaments, is the inspired Word of God, fully complete and without error. The Bible is God's written revelation of himself and his ways to man. The Bible is the ultimate authority in all matters of life and faith.

**ETERNAL LIFE:** We believe that every person is an eternal being who will spend eternity either with God in joy or without God in sorrow on the basis of exercising faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

**THE CHURCH:** We believe that the church is the community of people who follow Jesus Christ and his teachings. The church includes all Christian believers worldwide in every local congregation. Jesus Christ is the head of the church and every member is an equal part of it.



VISION, MISSION, CORE VALUES

**It is our dream to influence everyone we can to meet Jesus and help them develop a relationship with Christ that positively transforms their lives.**

Freedom Church is more than our buildings and property that we use extensively. It is our people who partner together to accomplish our life transformation mission. We want to help people to experience God daily as followers of Christ and make the world a better place like Jesus did.

**OUR MISSION**

To equip people to live a Christ-centred life through daily transformation.

**OUR VISION**

Transformed lives impacting our world.

*To accomplish our vision, we focus on doing three major things the best that we can:*

***Connecting, Training and Impacting.***

**CORE VALUES**

**CONNECTING:**

Building real relationships with God and others.

**TRAINING:**

Learning to think and act like Jesus.

**IMPACTING:**

Positively influencing the world for Jesus.



"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing...

And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

1 Peter 4:15-16

# CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

## ACCOUNTABILITY AT FREEDOM

**Here is the structure of accountability from the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada International Office to our local church leadership.**

### INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

General Superintendent & Executive Officers  
*Statement of Faith | Missions | Credentials*  
Over 1100 Churches in Canada

### DISTRICT OFFICE

District Superintendent & Executive Officers  
*Developing/Planting Churches | Credentials*  
*Approved | Ministry Training*  
Approx. 350 Churches in Western Ontario

### CAMBRIDGE SECTION

Section Pastor  
*Pastoral Oversight | Connecting Credential Holders*

### LEAD PASTOR

*Spiritual Direction |*  
*Leadership | Chair of Board*

### FREEDOM CHURCH

Board of Deacons  
*Local Church Constitution*  
*Policies & Departments*

### STAFF

*Serve/Assist Lead Pastor*  
*and Ministry Leaders*

### MEMBER

*Relationship and*  
*Responsibility*

"Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you."

*Hebrews 13:17*

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

# APPLICATION

ALSO AVAILABLE AT [FREEDOMKW.COM/MEMBERSHIP](http://FREEDOMKW.COM/MEMBERSHIP)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address (including City & Postal Code):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

When did you accept Jesus as your Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you baptized in water by immersion? \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, are you willing to be baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been baptized in the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you begin to attend Freedom in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you read and do you agree with "What We Believe" and the PAOC Statement of Essential Truths, as well as abiding by the terms in our General Operating Bylaw? **Y/N? Y/N**

Are you willing to meet with the pastors or deacons to discuss this application and/or to attend a membership class? **Y/N**

Have you held voting membership privileges in a previous church? **Y/N**  
If so, what was the name, denomination and pastor's name of the church?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What positions of leadership or ministry have you had at a previous church? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you agree to live in unity with this assembly? **Y/N**

Do you agree to financially support the work of this assembly with tithes and offerings? **Y/N**

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another."

*Hebrews 10:24-25*

# CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

## APPLICATION

Will you encourage others through faithful church attendance? **Y/N**

Will you support the pastoral staff and others in leadership? **Y/N**

Are you prepared to maintain a Christian lifestyle that honours God as outlined in the Lifestyle & Morality Standards? **Y/N**

Comments or questions you may consider relevant:

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this application to any of the pastors, deacons or church office staff. Thank you!

