

LAST NAME: _____

FIRST NAME: _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



AUSTIN OAKS
C H U R C H

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS IN JESUS FOR MORE
Cultivate connections. Advance good.

To begin the membership application process, you must:

1. Read through this application and sign it;
2. Complete the next steps form found on the Hub under "Forms"/"Next Steps" (austinoaks.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/170/responses/new)



COVENANT OF MEMBERSHIP

In applying for membership at Austin Oaks Church, my purpose and goal is to cooperate fully with the other members to advance the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ through the ministries of this local church.

As I join with fellow believers in this commitment, I sincerely affirm that:

- I have accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord;
- I have read and understand the Constitution and By-Laws of Austin Oaks church and agree with the Doctrinal Statement; and
- I do and will maintain a lifestyle that evidences the Lordship of Christ.

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in Step One of the Growth Track, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Austin Oaks Church family. In doing so, I make the following commitment to God and my fellow church members:

1. I will protect the unity of my church by:

Acting in love toward other members.

Refusing to gossip.

Following the leaders.

"So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together." Romans 14:19 PH

"Live in complete harmony with each other—each with the attitude of Christ toward each other." Romans 15:5 TLB

"Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart." 1 Peter 1:22 GNT

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs." Ephesians 4:29

"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

2. I will share the responsibility of my church by:

Praying for its growth and health
Inviting the unchurched to attend.
Warmly welcoming those who visit.

"To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers."
1 Thessalonians 1:1-2

"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full."
Luke 14:23 TLB

"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified." Romans 15:7 TLB

3. I will serve the ministry of my church by:

Discovering my gifts and talents.
Using my God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.
Developing a servant's heart.

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you." 1 Peter 4:10 PH

"So Christ Himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." Ephesians 4:11-12

"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus... taking the form of a bondservant." Philippians 2:4-5, 7 NKJV

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

Attending church and AOC Groups faithfully.
Living a Godly life.
Giving regularly.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42

"Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another." Hebrews 10:25 NLT

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ."
Philippians 1:27 PH

APPLICANT SIGNATURE:

DATE:



MEMBER FAMILY PROFILE

Name (Mr. / Mrs. / Miss / Ms.) _____

Birth Date _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Spouse's Name _____

Spouse's Birth Date _____ Spouse's Cell Phone _____

Spouse's Email _____

Home Phone _____ Anniversary _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Child's Name _____ Birth Date _____

Do you accept the Bible as the Word of God? **Yes** **No**

Have you been baptized? (not required for membership) **Yes** **No**

Are you currently a member of Austin Oaks Church? **Yes** **No**

Are you a member of any other church? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please provide the name and mailing address of that church if you like us to inform them of your change in membership.

I have read and agree to stand by the Covenant of Membership, Statement of Faith, and the Constitution and By-Laws of Austin Oaks Church. **Yes** **No**

If "no", please explain.

Are you currently serving at Austin Oaks Church? **Yes** **No**

If yes, which team(s)?

Are you currently involved in a small group? **Yes** **No**

If yes, which one?

CHURCH OFFICE USE ONLY

Elder Signature _____ Date _____

Elder Signature _____ Date _____

Recommendation for Membership **Yes** **No**



OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

Unity in essentials. Liberty in non-essentials. In all things, charity.

GOD

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory. (See Deuteronomy 6:4; John 1:3; Isaiah 6:3; Psalms 90:2; 102:25-27; 1 John 4:8, 16; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Deuteronomy 32:6; John 1:14; Galatians 4:6; Jeremiah 32:17; 2 Timothy 1:9; Matthew 19:28; Revelation 5:9-14)

THE BIBLE

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises. (See Matthew 1:22; 2 Peter 3:15, 16; Luke 1:1-4; 2 Timothy 3:16; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:15; 1 Peter 1:23; Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 10:23)

THE HUMAN CONDITION

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled, and renewed. (See Genesis 1:26-27; 3:1-6; 1 John 1:8; Ephesians 2:1-2; Romans 5:10; 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 4:24)

JESUS CHRIST

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus – Israel's promised Messiah – was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest (See Matthew 1:21; John 1:14, 18; 1:1; Hebrews 5:7-8; John 3:13; Genesis 3:14-20; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34, 35; Hebrews 4:15; Matthew 27:26; 28:1-10; Luke 24:51; Hebrews 1:3; 2:17; Romans 8:34)

THE WORK OF CHRIST

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation. (See Romans 5:18-19; 1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 9:14; 10:1; Romans 3:21-26; 1 John 2:2; 4:10; Colossians 2:13-15; Romans 4:25)

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips, and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service. (See John 16:14; 16:8; 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5; Mark 1:8; Romans 5:15-21; Titus 3:7; 2 Corinthians 6:18; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 4:4-15; John 16:13; Romans 12:4-8; Ephesians 3:16; Galatians 5:22-23)

THE CHURCH

We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer. (See Ephesians 4:4-6; Romans 3:20-28; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 1:22-23; Acts 9:31; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 16:34)

CHRISTIAN LIVING

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor, and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed. (See Hebrews 12:1, 14; Matthew 22:37-39; Romans 14:13; 15:7; Psalms 82:3-4; Ephesians 6:10-18; Hebrews 3:13; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8; Matthew 5:13-16)

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe in the personal, bodily, and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, requires constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service, and energetic mission. (See Matthew 24:30; Revelation 20:1-10; 19:11-21; Matthew 24:36; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Titus 2:13; 2 Peter 3:10-14)

RESPONSE & ETERNAL DESTINY

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment, and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord, in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. (See Acts 17:30; Romans 10:14; Daniel 12:2; Acts 17:31; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Matthew 25:34, 46; 2 Peter 3:13; Ephesians 1:6, 12)



AOC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

AUSTIN OAKS CHURCH CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this congregation is Austin Oaks Church of Austin, Texas, being chartered as a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Texas.

ARTICLE II - AFFILIATION

This church shall be affiliated with The Evangelical Free Church of America and its Texas/Oklahoma District. It shall, however, remain as its own authority in matters of purpose, government and operation.

ARTICLE III - PURPOSE/MISSON

The purpose of Austin Oaks Church of Austin, Texas is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. This takes place through building a holy and caring community committed to making disciples conformed to the image of Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit,

- Exalt God through Bible-centered worship both privately and publicly
- Equip other believers through preaching and teaching God's truth
- Encourage one another through nurturing, fellowship and prayer
- Evangelize beginning in their own locale through words and service
- Extend disciple making to all the world through missions

ARTICLE IV - DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

2. We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

3. We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled, and renewed.

4. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus

– Israel’s promised Messiah – was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips, and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

7. We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God’s grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord’s Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

8. We believe that God’s justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor, and justice for the oppressed. With God’s Word, the Spirit’s power, and fervent prayer in Christ’s name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ’s commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

9. We believe in the personal, bodily, and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, requires constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service, and energetic mission.

10. We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment, and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord, in the new heaven and earth, to the praise of His glorious grace.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

Any person who professes belief in the Lord Jesus Christ shall be eligible to make application for membership. The membership of the church shall consist of persons who profess belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior; whose character, conduct and reputation conform therewith; and who will abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the church.

ARTICLE VI - GOVERNMENT

A Board of Elders will be elected by and will be responsible to the membership. The spiritual leadership and administrative government of the church shall be vested in the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders will be responsible for setting and maintaining the direction and end goals of the Church in fulfilling our Mission and Purpose. The Board of Elders will hold the Senior Pastor accountable for the effective management of the church resources in executing the means by which we fulfill our Mission and Purpose. The Elder Board will be responsible for setting the agreed upon boundaries and limitations that may not be violated in the management of the Church. The Elder Board will set in place policies by which we measure our success in fulfilling our Mission and Purpose.

ARTICLE VII - PASTORAL STAFF

This church will have a Senior Pastor and any other pastoral staff as deemed necessary. The Senior Pastor will be accountable to the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders will be responsible for making a recommendation for the hiring or removal of the Senior Pastor to be voted on by the membership.

ARTICLE VIII - BUSINESS MEETINGS

An annual business meeting shall be held prior to the first quarter of the church fiscal year. Additional business meetings may be held as deemed necessary by the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE IX – PROPERTY

The membership shall have, in the corporate name, the right to own, buy, lease and sell property. In case of dissolution, the property shall be transferred to The Texas/Oklahoma District of the Evangelical Free Church of America. In case of a division of the membership, the ownership of property shall remain with those members abiding by this constitution as determined by the executive board of The Texas/Oklahoma District.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution may be recommended to the membership by the Board of Elders at a business meeting, and shall require a three-fourths majority of the votes cast to pass. It shall become effective immediately. Such a motion shall be introduced in writing by the Board of Elders at least sixty days prior to the business meeting.

ARTICLE XI - BYLAWS

A supplement to this constitution, known as the by-laws, shall contain procedural matters not outlined herein. Should there be an inconsistency between the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and By-Laws, the Board of Elders will have the authority to resolve the inconsistency. When a resolution is found it will be included in the minutes of the Board of Elders meeting.



AUSTIN OAKS
C H U R C H

AUSTINOAKSCHURCH.ORG

512.891.1600