



## Membership at Mountain View

Mountain View is committed to proclaiming the Gospel and developing fully devoted disciple's of Christ who **Know** Him personally, **Grow** in Him purposefully and **Go** (serve) Him passionately. We value membership because we value accountability. If you are interested in being part of a faith community of men and women, young people and senior adults who without apology desire to represent the diverse makeup of God kingdom then MVCC is the place for you. No matter who you are you are welcome to attend our Sunday morning worship services and receive information on the variety of ministries that we offer to families, singles, youth, young adults and senior adults.

We believe in membership because we believe that we all want to belong. It's our belief that there is no better place to belong to then a loving, church family. A Christian without a family is like someone who says, "I want to play football but I don't want to be on a team" A Christian is saved to be part of a family of believers. The reality is that a Christian without a church family is an orphan. When a child is raised in a functional family, he or she develops the necessary character traits, skills, and values necessary to live a productive life. He or she also enjoys the love, support, and protection of other family members. Likewise, a healthy, well-balanced, Christ-centered church offers a Christian the ideal environment for life and ministry development and the opportunity to develop a Christ-like character one needs to fulfill their calling.

Membership is the way an individual makes a commitment to the vision, purposes and strategies of MVCC. As a member one is stating that they are committed to participating in the life of the church.

### **MVCC has the following requirements for membership:**

1. You must receive Christ as personal Savior by grace through faith. (Eph 2:8).
2. If you have not already been baptized, you must plan to be baptized in water in obedience to the command of Christ (Matt 28:18-19; Acts 2:38).
3. You must have a sincere desire to live your life in obedience to Christ (John 14:23).
4. You must have a desire to grow as a fully devoted disciple of Christ. (John 8:31)
5. Commit to our strategy for making disciples by joining a home group and participating in a small group.

Membership does have its privileges. One of the benefits of membership include spiritual oversight, care and counsel by our Council of Elders, accessibility to pastors and facilities for weddings and funerals, emergency benevolence, and prayer. Above all, members belong to a family of believers who are mutually committed to and support each other. Members are also representatives of the church and, according to their gifts and maturity, are permitted and encouraged to participate in any one of our many ministries and mission opportunities in order to grow as a disciple of Christ and advance the kingdom of God. (Matt 28:19-20)

Those who are interested in membership should attend our weekly New Member Orientation, which is held at 9:30 am in the Administration Conference Room. (Building far south end of our campus)



### **Why Membership Is A Requirement To Serve In Ministry At MVCC**

There are dozens of ministries at MVCC that collectively seek to advance the kingdom of God by winning the lost to Christ, strengthen believers, and meet the needs of hurting people. The elders/pastors of MVCC are responsible and accountable for the ministries of the church. To ensure that ministry happens in a way that reflects the vision, purpose, and values of the church, church membership is a requirement for anyone serving on a ministry team.

There is a distinction between serving in ministry, and receiving or participating in ministry. Those who serve in ministry are ministers who use their gifts, talents, and callings to give of themselves for the benefit of others. Conversely, participants in ministry receive or consume the services and blessings of those who serve in ministry.

Requiring church membership for service in ministry is primarily an issue of commitment and accountability. The elders and pastors of this church want to know that the people serving in ministry are committed to the vision of this church. That commitment is best expressed through church membership.

In addition to commitment, it is important that those who serve on the ministry team willingly submit themselves to the authority and accountability of the leadership of the church. Spiritual authority and accountability are important, because ministry team members represent the church to those they serve. If they are not accountable to the leadership, and are unwilling to submit to its authority, then the leadership is rendered incapable of fulfilling its responsibility for the quality and effectiveness of the ministry.

### **Exceptions To The Membership Requirement**

**“Behind the Scenes”** –much of the work required in ministry takes place behind the scenes. Set up, break down, and related activities can be completed by non-members of MVCC.

Although this is an exception to the membership requirement, a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and membership/regular attendance at a church other than MVCC is a requirement. In addition, direct oversight of non-members by MVCC ministry leadership must occur. This oversight will ensure that the activities completed by non-members are performed in a way that is consistent with the expectation for quality ministry at MVCC.