



MEMBERSHIP ADVENTURE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Adventure Bible Fellowship is a local Church of Christ followers, founded in early 2026. We want to serve the community of the Klamath Basin in Oregon. Setting forth to share the Gospel and be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ to a lost and hurting world. We exist as a Church to bring praise and glory to our King, Jesus Christ, through worship, service, and unity.

- We exist to glorify Jesus Christ as the rightful God and King. As the Westminster Shorter Catechism states, “*Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.*”
- We exist to share the Gospel (Good News of Jesus Christ) with the lost.
- We exist to make disciples by equipping the saints through teaching and training.
- We exist to encourage each other in fellowship.

These things allow Christians to operate in their giftedness to fulfill the vision God has given to the leaders of the body. ***Ephesians 4:11-16***

All of this is done to reach a lost, hurting, and dying world with the only thing that can truly transform and break the bondage they are living in—the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The first requirement of membership at Adventure Bible Fellowship is to know that you are a born-again believer (***John 3:3***) and that you know (***1 John 5:11-13***) you will be in Heaven with Jesus when you die. (see the following statements regarding the Gospel of Grace, Baptism, and Communion)

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

A person cannot be saved by manipulation or persuasive words, but by the drawing that comes from the Lord. **John 6:44, John 16:8-11**

What is the condition of a person before New Life in Christ?

- They are spiritually dead, and they are under the control of Satan.
- They are incapable of controlling sinful passions.
- They are without hope.
- They are under condemnation for their sin.

Ephesians 2:1-3, 1 Corinthians 2:14, Ephesians 2:12

What must I do to be saved? Man has sinned against God (perfection is needed, and there are no perfect people). In **Matthew 5:48**, Jesus said, **“Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”** (The problem is that no one is perfect.)

Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:10-12, Romans 3:23

There is a penalty for sin (lack of perfection).

Romans 5:12, Romans 6:23, Revelation 20:15, 1 Corinthians 6:9

Jesus took our place (paid the penalty that was due) by dying on the Cross.

Romans 5:8, John 3:16-18, 1 Peter 1:18-21

By grace alone (an undeserved gift), through faith alone (trust), in Christ alone, you can be saved. Salvation is **NOT** found in a religion or by good works; it is **ONLY** found in Jesus.

1 John 5:11-13, Acts 16:30-31, Romans 10:13, Romans 10:9, Galatians 3:25-26

A person must call on the name of the Lord:

- a. Admit you have sinned against God. **Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23**
- b. Admit you need Him to forgive you to escape eternal death.
- c. Ask Jesus to take over your life, so He becomes Lord and King.
- d. Turn away from your sin and turn toward the Lord.

The bottom line is that justification (just as if I never sinned) comes through Christ alone, by grace alone, through faith alone. **John 19:30**

God did it all; we add nothing but to believe in Him. **Romans 4:3-8**

BAPTISM

Baptism was a command not only given by Jesus, but it was also one that was obeyed by Jesus as well. It is a picture and representation of the washing away of sins, as well as dying to our "old self" and old way of life, and the beginning of a new life lived by faith in Jesus Christ. Since it is a representation of the decision a person has previously made to put their faith in Christ and surrender their life to Him, it is not a requirement for infants or children who cannot decide for themselves. Baptism does not save a person, and infants and children are not held accountable by God for sin until they have had the chance to accept or reject God for themselves. We encourage people to be baptized as a result of their own decision and faith.

Acts 8:36-38, Matthew 3:14-15, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 8:12, Acts 22:16, Romans 6:3-6

COMMUNION

Jesus used communion as a memorial to remind us of the payment He made for all on the Cross at Calvary. It illustrates how He would offer His broken body and shed blood as payment for the sins of everyone who would place their faith in Him. The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby **members of the body of Christ** remember the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of our Redeemer.

Matthew 26:26-30, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Mark 14:22-26, Romans 10:9

**BYLAWS FOR
ADVENTURE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**

Article I — Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be Adventure Bible Fellowship, hereafter referred to as “the Church.”

Section 2. Purpose

The Church exists to glorify God through worship, discipleship, evangelism, fellowship, and service. As a non-denominational Christian Church, we affirm the authority of Scripture and the lordship of Jesus Christ.

Section 3. Mission

Our mission is to learn to love the Lord and have His love flow out of us to others. We accomplish this by submitting to the lordship of Christ, rightly teaching the Word of God, living a lifestyle of worship, performing acts of service, and welcoming people into the fellowship.

Article II — Statement of Faith

God

We believe in one God who exists in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We believe in God as creator and sustainer of all things. We believe that God is sovereign, eternal, holy, and loving.

Genesis 1:1, Matthew 28:19, Deuteronomy 6:4-8

Jesus

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the second member of the Trinity. We believe that Jesus willingly came to our world as fully man, while continuing to be fully God. We believe that Jesus lived a completely sinless life on our behalf, died a sinner's death in our place, physically rose from the dead, declaring victory over sin and death, and ascended to heaven where He is currently seated at the right hand of God as our advocate and intercessor.

Luke 1:35, Matthew 3:17, 1 Peter 2:24, Luke 24:46-47, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 12:2

Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third member of the Trinity. We believe that the Holy Spirit enters the life of a person when they accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

We believe that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is essential for and evidence of a person's salvation. We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. We believe that the Holy Spirit, as our helper, gives gifts to Christians for serving one another and empowers believers to live holy and effective lives for the glory of God.

John 16:8-11, Acts 2:38, Romans 8:9, 1 Peter 4:10

The Bible

We believe the Bible is the inspired word of God. We believe the 66 books of the Bible are without error in their original writing. We believe that the Bible is the final authority and applies to our daily lives.

2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:3

Man

We believe that man was created in the image of God and was designed to be in a loving relationship with God. We believe that because of man's sinful disobedience, mankind was separated from the loving intimacy that God intended. We believe that mankind's greatest and deepest need is to be forgiven of sin and restored into a right relationship with God, fulfilling his ultimate purpose, to worship God and fully enjoy Him forever.

Genesis 1:26-30, Genesis 2:7, Romans 3:23

Salvation

We believe that salvation involves the redemption of the whole man and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by faith. Jesus, by His own blood, obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense, salvation includes regeneration, sanctification, and glorification. We believe that Jesus's sinless life makes us righteous before God, and His substitutionary death removes all our sin. We believe that salvation cannot be earned or purchased and can only be received as a gift from God.

Romans 5:1, 1 John 2:1-2, Romans 10:9, Ephesians 2:8-9

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Acts 8:36-38, Matthew 3:14-15, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 8:12, Acts 22:16, Romans 6:3-6

Church

We believe that the Church is one body with many members, unified through faith in Jesus. We believe that this Church is an independent body and that the New Testament speaks of the Church as the body of Christ, which includes all the redeemed of all ages. The Bible commands us not to "forsake" or leave behind our assembling together. Attending and participating in Church provides us a way to fulfill God's commands to serve and love one another. We believe that the Church is called to gather together regularly for corporate worship, fellowship, teaching, prayer, and communion. We believe that the Church exists to continue the work of Jesus by declaring the Gospel, making disciples, and demonstrating God's love to the world.

Acts 2:41-47, Acts 20:28, Romans 12:5, 1 Corinthians 12:27

Eternity

We believe that people were created with both body and soul. We believe that after the body dies, the soul of a person continues for eternity. We believe that heaven is the eternal destination for all who have placed their faith and hope in the person and work of Jesus Christ. We believe that a literal hell is the eternal destination for those who have rejected Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We believe that the day is coming when Jesus will judge both the living and the dead. We believe that God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. We believe that Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly for His own, and the dead in Christ will be raised to meet Him in the air. We believe that Christians will be judged righteously according to their deeds to either receive or lose rewards, but will live eternally in Heaven with their Lord. We believe that the present Heaven and earth will be destroyed and God will create a new Heaven and a new earth where Christians will live eternally with Him.

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Peter 1:3-5, Philippians 3:20, 1 Peter 4:5, 2 Timothy 4:1, 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

Marriage

We believe marriage has been ordained by God. This Church defines "marriage" as the exclusive covenant union of one biological man and one biological woman in which such union is a lifetime commitment, as described in ***Genesis 2:21-24***. This Church will only perform weddings for couples according to this Biblical definition of marriage.

Article III — Church Governance

This Church is **pastor-run and elder-led**, operating under a shared leadership model in which the Lead Pastor provides primary spiritual direction and the Elders provide oversight, accountability, and governance.

Article IV — The Lead Pastor

Section 1. Role

The Lead Pastor is an elder of the Church (Pastor, Elder, Bishop, Overseer are synonymous terms in the New Testament *Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 5:1-4, Titus 1:5-9*), is the primary spiritual leader of the Church, and is responsible for:

- Preaching and teaching
- Vision and direction
- Pastoral care
- Leadership of staff and ministry teams
- Administration of ordinances
- Oversight of day-to-day ministry operations
- Leading the Church in alignment with Scripture and the Church's mission
- Serve as the chair of the Elder Board
- The Pastor, subject to elder oversight, has authority over hiring staff, staff supervision, and dismissal.

Section 2. Selection

If the need arises for a new Lead Pastor (due to resignation, retirement, death, or congregational removal of the existing pastor), he shall be selected by the Elder Board. A congregational affirmation vote will be held at a meeting called by the Elders.

Section 3. Removal

The Pastor may be removed by a unanimous vote of the Elders (excluding the Pastor) and an 85 percent majority of the Church body, for reasons including moral failure, doctrinal deviation, or inability to fulfill pastoral duties. The vote of the elders shall be held before being presented to the Church body for potential affirmation. (see **Article VII section 3**)

Article V — Elders

At the beginning of the Church, there will be a founding committee to oversee the necessary paperwork, facility location, banking, and decision-making for the new corporation. Once the Church is established, comparable elders will be nominated and voted upon by the board and the congregation. Once a group of elders is appointed (final appointment after a training period), the founding committee will be dissolved.

Section 1. Role

Elders provide spiritual oversight, doctrinal protection, accountability, and governance. They serve as shepherds, advisors, and guardians of the Church's mission. Elders are accountable to God first and foremost. They are mutually accountable to each other and should always seek to utilize God's Holy Spirit speaking into their lives through one another. Elders and Pastors are mutually accountable to one another.

Section 2. Qualifications

Elders must meet the biblical qualifications found in **1 Timothy 3:1–7** and **Titus 1:5–9**.

Section 3. Responsibilities

- Elders shall guard doctrine and teaching
- Elders shall be accountable to the Lead Pastor and provide accountability to the Pastor.
- Elders shall oversee Church discipline
- Pray for and shepherd the congregation, including visitations, prayers, and fellowship.

Section 4. Selection

Elders are nominated by the lead Pastor and other existing elders. They are to be approved by a unanimous vote of the Elder Board and affirmed by a majority of the Church members.

Section 5. Removal

Any member who perceives a problem with an elder should be appropriately cautious before discussing it with anyone else in the Church, even with another elder. Elders, like any other Church member, should be corrected using a **Matthew 18:15-17** and **Galatians 6:1** model of correction. If a Church member has an issue with an Elder, Paul's words in **1 Timothy 5:19**, "**Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses,**" should not be construed to mean that elders are to be protected from proper disciplinary action if necessary. If it is determined that an elder has become biblically unqualified, philosophically and doctrinally incompatible with the elder team, he should step down. If the elder refuses to step down, then the evidence for the charges brought against him should be made publicly known to the general membership of the Church. If any elder has a conflict of interest in any matter, they must recuse themselves from any of the decision-making for that matter. All members of the Elder Board shall discuss any potential conflict of interest before a potential vote is cast. If disagreements arise between Elders, all involved must pursue Biblical reconciliation before a potential division occurs.

If, after following the Biblical method of reconciliation, the matter remains unresolved and neither of the parties is willing to step down, a congregational meeting will be scheduled, and an outside agency (with no connection to the parties involved) should be consulted for mediation.

Matthew 18:15-17, Galatians 6:1, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, Ephesians 4:32

Article VI — Deacons (Optional)

If the Church appoints Deacons, they shall serve under the direction of the Pastor and Elders to meet practical needs within the congregation. Qualifications shall follow **1 Timothy 3:8–13**. Since scripture allows deaconesses, Adventure Bible Fellowship will consider qualified females for the role as well. **Romans 16:1** They are to be approved by a unanimous vote of the Elder Board and affirmed by a majority of the Church members.

Article VII — Membership

Section 1. Requirements

Membership is open to individuals who:

- Profess faith in Jesus Christ and have been baptized or are willing to be baptized
- Affirm the Church’s Statement of Faith
- Commit to the mission, financial support, unity, and fellowship of the Church

Section 2. Responsibilities

Members are expected to:

- Pursue spiritual growth
- Support the Church through service, prayer, and giving
- Maintain unity and uphold biblical conduct

Section 3. Privileges of Membership

- Voting shall be the privilege of all members who are 18 years and older.
- All matters presented to the membership for voting shall have prior approval of the Eldership.

These matters shall be approved by a simple majority of votes cast unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.

- Selection of a Lead Pastor shall require an 85% approval of votes cast by the membership.

Section 4. Removal of Membership

Membership may be removed by:

- Personal request
- Transfer to another Church
- Church discipline as determined by the Elders

Note: The Church membership role shall be reviewed by the Elder Board annually.

Article VIII — Church Discipline

Church discipline shall be carried out in accordance with *Matthew 18:15–17* and *Galatians 6:1*. The Elders oversee all disciplinary matters with grace, confidentiality, and with restoration as the ultimate goal.

Article IX — Finances

Section 1. Stewardship

The Church shall operate through tithes, offerings, and donations.

Section 2. Financial Oversight

The Elders shall ensure proper financial accountability, including audits or reviews as needed.

Article X — Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a unanimous vote of the Elder Board, and they are to be ratified by a simple majority vote of the congregation.

Article XI — Dissolution

Upon dissolution, all assets shall be distributed to one or more Christian ministries or churches that align with the Church's Statement of Faith, as determined by the Elders.

(Ratified by the founding committee 4-8-26)



MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Adventure Bible Fellowship is committed to following the biblical model of leadership and is accountable to the Bible, the Church bylaws, and to each other.

With this in mind, I have received Christ as my Lord and Savior by grace, through faith. I agree with the Adventure Bible Fellowship statements of faith, bylaws, strategies, structures, and government. I now feel the Holy Spirit is leading me to unite with this body of believers.

In doing so, I commit myself to the following:

1. I commit to protecting the unity of my Church:
 - by acting in love towards others. (**1 Corinthians 13:4-8**)
 - by refusing to gossip. (**Proverbs 26:22**)
 - by following the leaders as they follow the Lord. (**Hebrews 13:17**)
 - by being Christ-like and taking the first step to resolve conflict. (**Matthew 18:15-18, Ephesians 4:32, James 1:26, Proverbs 16:28**)
2. I commit to sharing the responsibility of my Church, where every member is a minister: (**Ephesians 4:11-16, Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 15:7**)
 - operating in my giftedness as it fits the overall vision of the fellowship.
 - praying for the pastors and leadership of the Church. **1 Timothy 2:1-2**
 - by inviting others to come, especially the unsaved.
 - by welcoming those who attend and visit our Church.
3. I commit to serve the ministry of my Church: (**Ephesians 4:11-16, Philippians 2:3-7, 1 Peter 4:10**)
 - by discovering my gifts and talents and using them as the Lord leads.
 - by being fed and equipped to serve as led by the Holy Spirit.

- by yielding to the Lord and developing a servant’s heart.

4. I commit to supporting my Church (*John 13:34-35, 2 Corinthians 9:7, Hebrews 10:24-25*)

- by attending faithfully.
- by allowing God’s love to flow in and through me.
- by faithfully giving of my time, talents, and treasures.

Name _____

Home Address _____

Email address _____

Telephone # _____

(Please indicate if texting is available) yes _____ no _____

Marital status _____

Spouse's Name (if applicable) _____

Do you have children? If so, please list their names and ages _____

Member

Date

Pastor

Date