

# MIDWEST MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP

## *Vision & Purpose Statement*



# Contents

<u>Mission Statement</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>We Believe . . .</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Government</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Benefits Of Membership</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Finances</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Important Clarifications</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Application For Membership</u>	<u>10-11</u>
<u>Sponsor's Reference</u>	<u>12-13</u>

**THE MIDWEST MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP**  
23300 PINK HILL RD.  
BLUE SPRINGS, MO 64015  
PHONE: (816) 874-0003  
FAX: (816) 228-8506  
E-MAIL: [Info@MMFellowship.com](mailto:Info@MMFellowship.com)



# Mission Statement

The Midwest Ministers' Fellowship forms a family of like-minded ministers, pastors, and churches who appreciate the broader unity of the Body of Christ. Through this unity, a framework is provided that:

***Facilitates*** and ***Nurtures*** meaningful relationships

***Equips*** and ***Enables*** ministers and churches to be more effective in their callings

***Affirms*** and ***Strengthens*** through interaction with others who share the same call and passion

***Honors*** the distinctive characteristics and ***Celebrates*** the diversity of expression

# We Believe . . .

## **The Bible**

Inspired by God and inerrant in its original writings, it is the only authority by which all doctrines, opinions, and conducts shall be judged.

## **The Trinity Of God**

There is only one God, creator and sustainer of the universe; eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## **Jesus Christ**

Both true God and true man, He was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born to the virgin Mary, was crucified, dead, and buried, yet was bodily resurrected and ever lives to make intercession for us as our High Priest. He will come again to judge all mankind.

## **The Nature Of Mankind**

Man was created in the image of God, but sinned, thereby incurring both physical and spiritual death, which has resulted in the sinful nature of all mankind.

## **The Hope Of Mankind**

The Lord Jesus Christ died for the sins of all; therefore all who receive Him by faith are born again by the Holy Spirit and justified on the basis of His bodily sacrifice and resurrection, and have become children of God and members of the Body of Christ.

## **The Holy Spirit**

The fullness of the Holy Spirit is available to all born again believers, anointing the believer with power to witness and supernatural ability to live the resurrected life. All of the spiritual gifts that God has given are available today, and through His Spirit, God gives these gifts to all believers for the building up of the church.

## **Eternal Life**

All mankind will be resurrected and judged by the Lord Jesus Christ: eternal life for those who receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and eternal damnation for those who reject Him.

## **The Church**

There is one Body of Christ, made up of all born again believers, united in one Holy Spirit, with diversity of function and expression.



# Government

A “Leadership Team” of six or more member pastors or ministers provides leadership for the Midwest Ministers’ Fellowship. These leaders are committed to serve a minimum of one year, and their responsibilities are to:

- Establish the vision and give direction to the Midwest Ministers' Fellowship
- Ensure that the purpose of the Midwest Ministers' Fellowship becomes a reality
- Maintain doctrinal purity
- Address membership issues including the qualifications for membership, final screening of candidates, and the discipline and/or removal of members from the organization
- Oversee all areas of financial concern including collection, budgeting, accounting, and distribution (Annual reports are provided.)
- Be available to serve as mediators and/or serve on conflict resolution teams

All decisions will be made by majority agreement with not more than one dissenting vote. Candidates for the Leadership Team will be members of the Midwest Ministers' Fellowship, selected and voted on by the existing Leadership Team.

The Leadership Team serves with an openness to input, counsel, and assistance from members, yet will ultimately be responsible.

# Benefits Of Membership

## **The Midwest Ministers' Fellowship Meeting**

Our monthly fellowship is open to all ministers and their spouses. It provides a time of high-quality Biblical teaching tailored to the needs of local church pastors and ministers, from the hearts of national and local ministers. Meetings also provide a place for worship, prayer, and fellowship. A complimentary luncheon is provided.

## **The Annual Midwest Ministers' Fellowship Retreat**

Our annual retreat in January provides a time of relaxation and inspiration for member ministers, pastors, staff, elders, and their wives.

## **Pastoral Consultation**

It is the pastoral concern of the Leadership team that there be a forum for meaningful consultation for member pastors. This will be provided by sponsorship of new churches, monthly fellowship meetings, individual meetings, and continuing education.

## **Assistance To Churches**

It is our desire to aid member churches during a crisis, as exemplified by the churches in the book of Acts.

## **Mutual Ministry Coordination**

Our individual church ministries are greatly enhanced with interaction and unity. A sharing of ideas, personnel, facilities, etc. provide an enrichment in the many varied ministries within the local Body of Christ.

## **Conflict Resolution**

The Midwest Ministers' Fellowship will provide non-binding mediation and arbitration for churches and ministries when "invited" by those with the authority to do so.

## **Area-Wide Unity**

The Midwest Ministers' Fellowship forms a "family of like-minded ministers, pastors, and churches" who appreciate the broader unity of the Body of Christ. Together we will work for greater unity in the Body of Christ throughout the Midwest and the world.



# Finances

Member churches participate with us in financial support of the Midwest Ministers' Fellowship. This is the practical means whereby we are able to implement the vision and purpose to which we are all committed.

It is our desire to walk in financial integrity. Therefore all financial support will be handled with openness and honesty.

The designated amount of support is:

**Member Churches**

*1% of the general budget, based on undesignated tithes and offerings*

**Member Ministries**

*1% of the general budget, based on undesignated support, or an annual rate of \$300.00, whichever is greater*

A written request for an adjustment of monthly fees may be submitted to the Leadership Team and will be considered on an individual basis.

# Important Clarifications

## **The Midwest Ministers' Fellowship is . . .**

- A fellowship of pastors, churches, and ministries who are compatible in doctrine, vision, character, values, and purpose
- A fellowship of ministry leaders dedicated to nurturing relationships and strengthening bonds of love between each other
- A ministry that seeks to affect our world for Jesus Christ, upholding the highest moral and ethical values taught in the Bible

## **The Midwest Ministers' Fellowship is not . . .**

- A governmental authority—we will not control or usurp local church government
- A “spiritual covering”—our purpose is to come alongside and assist

## **The goals of the Midwest Ministers' Fellowship are:**

- To provide a context for meaningful relationships, including relational accountability
- The impartation of Biblical truth

Leaders who model these values and adhere to this same vision and standard are welcome to stand with us in this purpose.

# Membership

***Are you in fellowship with other like-minded leaders?***

***Do you believe that there are some things in God's kingdom that we can do much better together than alone?***

***Do you feel that you could support and exemplify the biblical values and doctrinal positions of the Midwest Minister's Fellowship?***

**If so, please consider membership in the Midwest Minister's Fellowship. To become a member, you must:**

1. Become acquainted with a leader who is a current member and ask them to become your sponsor.
2. Fill out the application on pages 8-9 and return it to your sponsor.
3. Have your sponsor complete the sponsor's reference on pages 10-11.
4. Make yourself available for a personal interview with two members of the Leadership Team.

Pending application you will receive a written notification regarding your application for membership.

## **Guidelines For Membership**

1. You must be a tax exempt non-profit church or ministry incorporated in its respective state with a functioning governing council.
2. You must agree with the Statement of Faith on page 2.
3. You must be doctrinally compatible.
4. Attendance at Midwest Ministers' Fellowship meetings is expected.
5. You must agree to the designated financial contribution.

# Application for Membership

## **Senior Leader**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Children \_\_\_\_\_

## **Church / Ministry**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Elders, Board Members, or Governing Council:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(over)

# Application for Membership

Continued

## **References** (Friendship of 3 years or longer)

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## **Sponsor**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby confirm that I have read this booklet and understand the purpose and commitment of the Midwest Ministers' Fellowship. By signing this statement I am indicating my desire to become a part of this fellowship.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

# Sponsor's Reference

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Church or Ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Church or Ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## **To Be Completed By The Sponsor:**

1. How long have you been associated with this pastor/minister? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe your relationship. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(over)





ONE LORD

*Behold,*

ONE FAITH

*how good and pleasant it is*

ONE BAPTISM

*for brethren to dwell*

ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL

*together in unity.*

