

## **Connect with Lifepoint**

### **Church Membership**

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.” Ephesians 2:19

#### **Four things that connect us as members:**

1. Our Salvation – What God has done for us.
2. Our Statements – What we believe as a church.
3. Our Strategy – How we fulfill our purpose.
4. Our Structure – When and where we fulfill our purpose

#### **Our Salvation**

“Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.” Ephesians 1:4-5

Problem – sin has separated us from God, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23

Solution – God sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sin, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23; “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

#### ***What does God want me to do?***

1. Admit that your sin separates you from God

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

2. Believe that Jesus died for your sin

“That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

3. Accept Gods free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ – Ephesians 2:8,9  
“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9
4. Invite Jesus Christ to come into and direct your life

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” John 1:12,13

You can pray a simple prayer and invite Christ into your life right now.

“God, I know that I am a sinner. I know that my sins separate me from you. I want to thank you for sending Jesus Christ to die for my sin. I believe in Christ, His death, burial and resurrection that cancels my sin debt. I accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. Thank you for saving me, in the name of Jesus.”

### ***Importance of Baptism***

- To follow the example of Jesus Christ – Mark 1:9
- To obey the command of Jesus Christ – Matthew 28:19-20
- It illustrates the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ – 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Colossians 2:12, Romans 6:4

### ***Why do we baptize by immersion into water?***

- This is the way Jesus was baptized – Matthew 3:16

### ***Who and when should a person be baptized?***

- A person should want to be baptized soon after accepting Jesus Christ – Acts 2:41

### ***Importance of the Lord's Supper***

- To remember the death of Jesus Christ – 1 Corinthians 11:24-25
- To show our symbol of our faith in Jesus Christ – 1 Corinthians 11:26
- To allow us an opportunity of self-examination – 1 Corinthians 11:27

*Note: Following Christ in believers' baptism and partaking in the Lord's Supper does not secure ones relationship with God but is an outward expression of an inward commitment to God.*

## **Our Statements**

In our essentials we have unity, in our non-essentials we express liberty, and in everything else we practice love.

- That the Bible is God's way of revealing himself to man and is His perfect guidebook for life. II Timothy 3:16-17
- That there is only one God, which is better and closer than we can imagine. Exodus 20:3-5; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:20
- That Jesus Christ is God revealing Himself to us in the life of a man without sin. That Jesus lived, died, lives today and is coming again, preparing a place for those who accept His free gift of eternal life. Hebrews 1:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; John 14:2-3
- That the Holy Spirit is living in the believer, giving us the power to please God. John 16:7-13 That Satan was created by God but through pride has fallen and become our only enemy. Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 4:2-11; Revelation 20:10
- That man is found with sin and only by God's grace we can have a relationship with Him. Romans 3:23; John 3:16
- That by faith we grow in our relationship with God. Hebrews 11:6
- That heaven and hell are real places in which people will live in forever after death. John 3:16
- That the church is a group of baptized believers which gives to others just like Christ gave to us. Acts 2:42-47
- That our life's purpose is to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to the entire world. Matthew 28:19-20

## **Our Strategy**

Lifepoint is a simple church with a simple purpose: to love God, live in community and to lead from our strengths.

### ***Love God*** – Matthew 22: 37-39

We believe that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our being and to love others as ourselves. Because of that we ask that you make a commitment to attend our Celebration services and learn to grow in a relationship with God. We also ask that you treat everyone like you would want to be treated

### ***Live in Community*** – Galatians 6:10

We desire for every member to be involved with a consistent Lifegroup. We cannot live out our lives in a spiritual vacuum but rather learn to be interdependent on the community of believers.

### ***Lead from our Strengths*** – I Peter 4:10

We have the ultimate goal to strengthen the gifts of every member and bring them to a point that they can re-produce themselves into another life.

### **Our Structure**

“Let all things be done decently and in order.” I Corinthians 14:40

- ***This church is a fellowship of believers*** – Acts 2:42
- ***This church is a family*** – Galatians 6:10
- ***This church is a body*** – I Corinthians 12:27
- ***This church is a flock*** – John 10:1-30

Lifepoint practices congregational type government by voting on, officers of the church; calling of a senior pastor, changes to the church constitution and by-laws, a yearly budget and other important issues.

### **The History of Lifepoint**

In the fall of 2008 a small nucleolus of six adult believers met in the Sienna Estates Clubhouse for the purpose of starting a new church. For the first five weeks the met on Saturday nights to learn of this purpose and philosophy of this new church. During September of 2008 this small group began to meet on Sundays to forge the new path for Lifepoint, they had thirteen at their first Sunday meeting.

The founder pastor was Mike Brinson which moved to Northwest Arkansas in the summer of 2008 for the singular purpose of starting a new church. Pastor Mike had previous ministry experience from growing up in a pastor's home, attending Bible College for his undergraduate and graduate degree and from working on staff for eight years in Springfield, Missouri at Cherry Street Baptist Church.

During the fall of 2008 God began to bless this new church with more committed believers and a move was going to become a necessity. During the month of November the church worked to remodel a storefront off the main highway through Centerton. That December Lifepoint moved to Beckendale Plaza and celebrated with twenty four in attendance.

It became evident in January of 2009 that God was continuing to bless the ministry of Lifepoint and further expansion was going to be needed to adequately minister to the children. Again they stepped out by faith to rent another portion of the Beckendale Plaza and on the first Sunday in March opened up Kidpoint for pre-school and elementary age children. God again blessed on that Sunday with forty-one in attendance.

It was now time for Lifepoint to give a big public push and a Grand Opening celebration was set on the calendar for Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009. Even in the midst of one of the wettest Aprils on record God moved in the heart of 75 individuals to attend the Grand Opening celebration.

Lifepoint looks forward to the opportunity to make disciples and start other new churches.

### **Why is church membership so important?**

At Lifepoint we ask you to commit to membership because of the value Christ placed on the church. In Ephesians 5:25 Paul states that Christ loved the church and gave His life for it. We live in a culture that bucks commitment but we believe that commitment builds character. This commitment defines who we can count on. Every sports team has a roster, every school an enrollment and every army has an enlistment. This membership helps to identify our church family.

### **What is expected of a member?**

I will protect the unity of my church family.

- By acting in love toward other members. Romans 15:5
- By refusing to use my mouth in a destructive way. Ephesians 4:29
- By following the leadership. Hebrews 13:17

I will share the responsibility of my church family.

- By praying for my church. I Thessalonians 1:2
- By inviting the un-churched to attend. Luke 14:23
- By warmly welcoming those who attend. Romans 15:7

I will serve in the ministries of my church.

- By discovering, developing and deploying my spiritual gifts. I Peter 4:10
- By being equipped by the church leadership. Ephesians 4:11-12
- By developing a servants heart. Philippians 2:3-4

I will support my church family.

- By attending services and Lifegroups faithfully. Hebrews 10:25
- By living a godly life. Philippians 1:27
- By regularly giving to the financial ministries and needs. I Corinthians 16:2

## Questions for Prospective Members

- Have you committed your life to Jesus Christ and trusted Him for Salvation?
  - Yes I did this at \_\_\_\_\_
  - I am unsure and would like to speak with someone to settle this
  - NoOther comments:
  
- Have you been baptized by being immersed under water after you committed your life to Jesus Christ?
  - Yes I did this at \_\_\_\_\_
  - I am unsure and would like to speak with someone about this
  - NoOther comments:
  
- Do you desire to abide by the Lifepoint membership commitment?
  - Yes
  - No

Sign Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_