



Vision & Purpose Statement

THE MIDWEST MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP

23300 PINK HILL RD. BLUE SPRINGS, MO 64015

PHONE: (816) 874-0003

FAX: (816) 228-8506

E-MAIL: MMFellowship.org

Contents

Mission Statement	3
We Believe . . .	4
Leadership	5
Benefits Of Membership	6
Finances	7
Important Clarifications	8
Membership	9
Application For Membership	10-12
Sponsor's Reference	13-14

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.

Leadership

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 **Membership Application** and return it to your sponsor.
3. Have your sponsor complete the **Sponsor's Reference**.
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 _____

Spouse's Name _____

Mobile Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Church / Ministry

Name _____

Affiliation, if any _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Web address _____

Names and Phone Numbers of Elders, Board Members, or Governing Council:

Application for Membership

References (Friendship of 3 years or longer)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Sponsor

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Application for Membership

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 _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Applicant's Name _____

To Be Completed By The Sponsor:

1. How long have you been associated with this pastor/minister?
2. Describe your relationship.

Sponsor's Reference

3. How would you evaluate the applicant in terms of leadership, management, character, and relationship with other pastors / ministers?

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.