

# Membership



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# WHY BECOME A MEMBER OF REIMAGE CHURCH?

By definition, a member is *"a person, animal, plant, group, etc., that is part of a society, party, community or other body."* Membership at Reimage Church means that the individual becomes a part of the whole. It means a mutual commitment of all the members to each other; a commitment to love each other, to care for each other, and to support each other. It is realized in worshipping together, working together in common goals, and growing together on a clear pathway to Christ-likeness. As a member you will become a recognized part of this group of Christ followers and enjoy all the benefits of mutual commitment, support and accountability.

## THE STEPS TO MEMBERSHIP

### Step 1

Read through this Membership Booklet to acquaint yourself with the core values, vision and structure of Reimage Church. Once you finish reading this booklet and are ready to move forward please contact the church office at 252.355.6621 to speak with one of our Pastors to coordinate your part in one of our membership forums.

### Step 2

Take part in a membership forum. There are two different types of membership forums to accommodate your schedule: with a small group or with a church leader.

### Step 3

Make a quality decision to join the Church by filling out the Membership Form and returning it to the church office, or turning it in at the Information Center located in the Church Lobby.

### Step 4

Complete a brief assimilation interview with a Pastor or Elder. We conduct these interviews to aid new members connect and grow with their new church. Upon receipt of your Membership Form, the interviewer will contact you to introduce himself and schedule a time to meet.

### Step 5

Receive acknowledgement from the church leadership, welcoming you to Reimage Church – a diverse community of Christ-followers changing our world.

### Step 6

Be the member by taking an active role in the life of the church through fellowship, service and support.

## A WELL-INFORMED CHOICE...

Who would marry someone without knowing much about them or take a job in a company without understanding its goals, values and operation? Membership is an important choice; therefore, it is wise to know the basic components of Reimage Church before making a decision to join. There are five important components that blend together to help us see the life of the Church.

### Faith in Christ

Jesus said in the Gospel of John 3:3 *I tell you the truth, unless one is born again, he cannot be in God's kingdom.* The Apostle Paul said in Romans 10:9-10 *For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.* Membership in Reimage Church is contingent upon a personal belief and embracing of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of lost mankind through his crucifixion and resurrection from the dead.

[ See *God's Plan for Mankind* Pg 6]

### Purpose and DNA

Our purpose as a Church can be found in the word Christ-likeness. Our common goal is to help each person experience Christ as Savior and to help each other along the journey of transformation and growth as we learn to live according to the teachings of the Bible. In there we have our name – Reimage Church – which means to remove everything corrupted and restore it to the original intent, the path and the process to Christ-likeness.

DNA is the substance present in every living cell of an organism that carries the genetic code. In essence, the individual is a reflection of the whole as the whole is a reflection of the individual. Our Church DNA must be stamped on every individual, group, ministry, activity and church culture: *we are a diverse community of Christ followers changing our world.*

[See *Scriptures & Definitions* Pg 7]

### Vision

Vision is defined as a compelling picture of what could be and what should be. Reimage Church vision is the collective picture of where we are going, what we are building and who we are becoming. The Apostle Paul pleaded with the Corinthian Church *"to be of one mind united in thought and purpose"* so that there wouldn't be division but rather, in his words, *"real harmony"*. We are on a journey together and it is important for each member to see the direction that we are going.

[See *A Clear Picture* Pg 8]

### Support

No organization can be viable without the full support of each member. There are two primary ways in which every member should be active:

**Volunteerism:** Romans 12:4-6 *Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others. God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well.* Every church member carries equal value and equal responsibility to fulfill a function in the church according to their ability. It is equally the responsibility of the church membership to provide training and mentoring in all areas of church work.

[See *Opportunities* Pg 10]

**Giving:** God has instituted four general principles that apply to every member; God's Provision for their lives, Stewardship with all their resources, Generosity with all their heart, and Equal Responsibility in support of their Church. We recognize that everything that we have comes from God and are thankful, we are wise caretakers of all that we possess, like Christ we develop a giving heart, and we all live under the plan of tithing – giving a tenth to the church. It is important to understand that all four principles work together in a rhythm and when one area is off, the other three are affected.

[See *Scriptures & Church Budget* Pg 11]

## Church Structure

Any church organization must have a working and easy to understand people structure that connects it all together and serves in moving the life of the organization forward. Reimage Church is led by a diverse group of gifted men and women. John Zabawski serves as Lead Pastor having founded the church in 1980 with his wife of 30 years, Deborah. Church structure consists of several overlapping circles of lead ministry, authority, accountability and service; Church Board, Pastors, Governing Elders, Elders, Church Staff, Finance Council and a large group of Ministry Directors.

[See *Roles & Responsibilities* Pg 12]

## FAQs

### q. Can I transfer membership from another church?

A. A recommendation of good standing from another church does go a long way. However, we still believe that it is necessary to pass through our process so that you can make a well informed decision to join Reimage Church.

### q. Does each member of my family need to individually join?

A. Just as salvation is individual we believe that a husband and wife need to individually join the church. However, children under 18 living at home are members along with any parent.

### q. Is membership ever denied?

A. Membership is denied for the person who does not believe in Jesus Christ or for the individual who is living outside some basic Biblical moral standards such as homosexuality, unmarried couples living together, or various unresolved addictions. However, once any of these issues are resolved, a person can apply for membership.

### q. Can membership be revoked?

A. The Bible teaches that under extreme conditions of immoral behavior or division, a church member can lose their membership after rejecting repeated attempts of reconciliation with Church Leadership.

# GOD'S PLAN FOR MANKIND

## Man's Problem: Separation from God

Romans 5:8 *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*

According to this verse, God demonstrated His love for us through the death of His Son. Christ died for us because Scripture declares all men to be sinful. To sin means to miss the mark, it means disobedience to God. The Bible declares *For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard* (Romans 3:23). In other words, our sin separates us from God who is perfect love.

## The Ineffectiveness of Our Works

Scripture also teaches that no amount of human goodness, human works, human morality, or religious activity can gain acceptance with God or get anyone into heaven. The moral man, the religious man, and the immoral and non-religious are all in the same boat - they all fall short of God's perfect righteousness. After discussing the immoral man, the moral man, and the religious man in his letter to Rome, the Apostle Paul declares that both Jews and Greeks are under sin, that *there is no one righteous, not even one* (Romans 3:9-10). Added to this are the following verses of Scripture: Ephesians 2:8-9 *God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.* Titus 3:5-7 *He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of his grace he declared us righteous and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.* It is obvious that no amount of good living will make us right with God. What then is the solution?

## God's Solution

God is love and because of His love and grace, He has not left us without hope and a solution. Romans 5:8 *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.* This is the good news of the Bible, the message of the gospel. It's the message of the gift of God's own Son who became man (the God-man), lived a sinless life, died on the cross for our sin, and was raised from the grave proving both the fact He is God's Son and the value of His death for us as our substitute. John 3:16 *For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.* Romans 4:25 *He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.* II Corinthians 5:21 *For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.* God has made a way for every human being to be freely forgiven and made right in His eyes through Jesus Christ.

## How Do We Receive God's Son?

Romans 10:9-10 *If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.* In every day terms this means faith and choice. We believe on Jesus Christ, ask him to forgive us, make a choice to follow his teachings. In essence, we give to Him the control of our lives – making him (as the Bible says) Lord. Every human being comes to God the same way relying totally on Christ alone for their salvation.

*If you would like to receive and trust Christ as your personal Savior, you may want to express your faith in Christ by a simple prayer acknowledging your sinfulness, accepting His forgiveness and putting your faith in Christ for your salvation.*

# SCRIPTURES & DEFINITIONS

## Our Name: Reimage Church

Our name means to remove everything corrupted and restore it to the original intent, the path and the process to Christ-likeness. Our name best reflects who we are and what God is doing.

## Our Purpose: Christ-likeness

*Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us."*

*Romans 8:29 God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love Him along the same lines as the life of His Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity He restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in Him.*

*2 Corinthians 5:17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone: a new life has begun!*

*Colossians 3:9-10 You have left your old sinful life and the things you did before. You have begun to live the new life, in which you are being made new and are becoming like the One who made you.*

*1 John 3:2-3 But friends, that's exactly who we are: children of God. And that's only the beginning. Who knows how we'll end up! What we know is that when Christ is openly revealed, we'll see him—and in seeing him, become like him. All of us who look forward to his Coming stay ready, with the glistening purity of Jesus' life as a model for our own.*

## Our DNA: a diverse community of Christ-followers changing our world

### **Diverse**

The acceptance and collaboration of generational, racial and cultural differences; we are diverse in age, race, ethnicity, nationality and culture...but united in Christ

### **Community**

The connection with each other and the care expressed towards each other realized in Christ

### **Christ-followers**

The act of following and being followed in a joint pursuit of Christ-likeness

### **Changing Our World**

The effect of my life on my world as a part of the effect of our church on our world

# MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

A compelling vision of what could and should be as seen below:

## Reimage Mission

Transforming Lives

## Reimage Vision

We are building a growing, vibrant and culturally relevant, Spirit-filled church. We are becoming a racially, generationally and culturally diverse people that are committed to God, the Bible, and each other with mutual acceptance, care and honor. We are Christ-followers making disciples who together grow in knowledge, walk in love, excel in faith and live according to the teachings of Jesus. We are engaged in saving the lost; radically using our time and resources to reach our community, our country and the nations of the world.

## Vision Statement

We are building a church that is a diverse community of Christ followers who are changing our world

## Values

*These are the enduring, passionate and distinctive core beliefs that guide the conduct, activities and goals of Reimage Church*

Biblical and anointed preaching/teaching

Spiritual, passionate and contemporary worship

Racial and generational diversity

Personal devotion to Christ, marked by spiritual growth

Cultural relevancy with doctrinal purity and without moral compromise

Strong marriages/families; youth/college; babies/children

A body of believers exemplifying unity, servant-hood, spiritual gifts and ministry callings.

Leadership

Lost people matter to God and us enough to actively reach them for Christ

A welcoming small group community marked by mutual care, commitment, correction and mission

Obedient generosity

A culture of creativity, excellence, planning and organization



# SCRIPTURES & CHURCH BUDGET

**Malachi 3:8-12** *Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! "But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?' "You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. 9 You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! 11 Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease.[a] Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. 12 "Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies.*

**II Corinthians 9:6-10** *Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. 7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." 8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. 9 As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever." 10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.*

## 2012/2013 Budget

To operate a ministry and facilities this size is costly as annual utilities alone can cost \$90,000/year! We strive to wisely allocate and spend every dollar within a circle of accountability.

Pastoral .....	\$227,000*
Mortgage .....	263,000
Operating .....	346,000*
Facilities Management .....	159,000*
Birth–12th Grade Ministries .....	86,000*
Creative Arts .....	78,000*
Savings .....	25,000
Missions .....	31,000
Miscellaneous Ministries .....	18,000

**TOTAL \$1,233,000**

*\*Includes personnel expenditures*

# PHILOSOPHY, ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Our philosophy of ministry is based upon the Biblical premise of recognizing all gifts listed in Ephesians 4 and I Corinthians 12 & 14 working together in unity to build up the Church.

**Pastors:** The role of the Pastors is to provide full-time oversight and ministry over the entire congregation, lead the leaders, cast vision and minister the Word of God with power and clarity. This role requires a firm grasp of the vision, culture and mission of Reimage Church and the ability to minister in the spiritual-gifted role and anointing of a Pastor.

*John Zabawski, David Zabawski, Chris Hopkins*

**Governing Elders:** The role of the Governing Elder is to provide doctrinal, directional and disciplinary oversight over the church in addition to their duties as an Elder. This role requires a firm grasp of the vision, culture and mission of Reimage Church and the ability to minister in apostolic and prophetic offices. The Governing Elder provides leadership and oversight to the congregation alongside the other Governing Elders.

*John Zabawski, David Zabawski, John Daigle, Frank Deena*

**Elders:** The role of the Elder is to provide pastoral ministry and spiritual oversight in the church. This role requires a firm grasp of the vision, culture and mission of Reimage Church and the ability to “shepherd the flock of God” (I Peter 5). The Elder offers leadership, oversight, teaching, care, relationships/friendships, and discipleship to the congregation while serving as an example to follow alongside the Pastors and other Elders.

*John Zabawski, David Zabawski, John Daigle, Frank Deena, Tope Bello, Don Trippeer, Linwood Hicks, Cline Hall, Ralph Smith, Ray Gilbarte, Steve Cherry, and Wayne Trainor*

**Church Staff:** John Zabawski, Lead Pastor; David Zabawski, Executive Pastor; Chris Hopkins, Associate Pastor, David Pridgen, Creative Arts Director; Josh Zabawski, Technical Director; Tara Pish, Children's Ministries Administrator (Grades 1-5); Anna Pridgen, Lead Teacher (Grades 1-5); Debbie Brown, Director of Nursery & Preschool Ministries; Brian Maciaszek, Business Manager

**Ministry Directors:** The role of a Ministry Director is to oversee the work of a specific ministry. This role requires a firm grasp of the vision, culture and mission of Reimage Church and the ability to lead volunteers.



**reimage**  
CHURCH

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