



How Do I Become A Member of the Fort Macleod Alliance Church?

What Is Church Membership?

The Church is not a “building”, but a “people” who have believed individually in the saving work of Jesus Christ, a work which was accomplished for them in the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ:

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Rom 5:8

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:31

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

The Church “universal” consists of all who have trusted in the work of Jesus Christ and become His followers throughout all ages of history and around the world.

But, the Church is also something that exists “locally.” Christians unite together in local congregations to be a representation of the “universal” Church within local communities. As such, the Bible can speak of “The church of God in Corinth” (1 Corinthians 1:2), as a “local” church group.



The Bible is full of “One Another’s”.....

“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love.” Romans 12:10a

“Serve one another in love.” Galatians 5:13

“Let us encourage one another.” Hebrews 10:25

“Instruct (or admonish) one another” Romans 15:14

....and there are many more.

All of the “one another’s” are practised as local Believers commit to Jesus Christ and to “one another,” seeking to glorify God through serving together and growing together in spiritual and relational maturity as followers of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said: **“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” John 13: 34 – 35. How can this take place in a deep and meaningful way without a personal commitment to other Christians at a local level?**

So what is Church Membership? It is a way for local Christians to come together to glorify God and grow together as followers of Jesus Christ, practising the “one another’s” within their local context. Local Christians commit together to common Biblical teachings, practices and purposes and to “one another” as they represent the Church together within their communities.



What is The Fort Macleod Alliance Church?

The Fort Macleod Alliance Church is a member church of the Western Canadian District of the Christian & Missionary Alliance (C&MA) in Canada. It is one of about 144 churches in the Western Canadian District and one of approximately 440 C&MA churches in Canada. Globally the C&MA family consists of close to 18,800 churches in over 80 nations around the world.

In June 1984 Rev Al Walters, and his wife Anne, became Church Planters in Fort Macleod under the direction of the Western Canadian District. Their dedicated and sacrificial service over the course of 15 years birthed what would become the Fort Macleod Alliance Church. In the early years the church met in various rental locations until, through the hard work of many volunteers, a permanent church home would be built and completed and dedicated in May of 2000.

Our desire, as a church, is to grow together as passionate followers of Jesus Christ – growing to become more and more like Him in our attitudes and actions out of our gratitude for the love and grace we have been shown in Jesus Christ. We don't always get it right, but that's one of the reasons we are "together" – to support and encourage one another in this common endeavour.

Throughout the various seasons of ministry and ministers, the church has had opportunity to grow both numerically and trustfully (and of greater importance) in character as a people seeking to fulfill it's mission statement:

"The Fort Macleod Alliance Church exists to equip Godly Disciples of Jesus Christ who Share Christ's Life – Show Christ's Love – and Shine Christ's Light."

What is The Christian & Missionary Alliance?

The Christian & Missionary Alliance was founded in 1887 by Albert Benjamin Simpson, a Canadian born Presbyterian minister. In the 1870's while he was pastoring in the United States, Simpson's life was revolutionized by the Holy Spirit.

He became passionate about the poor and neglected masses (most-neglected people groups or least-reached people groups) at home and abroad. His passion led him to create two movements, an evangelical association to preach the Four-fold Gospel in North America and a missionary alliance to send missionaries around the world. In 1897, the two joined and became The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

After decades of serving together as a North American denomination, the leadership recognized the need to focus



efforts on Canada and the United States as two diverse teams. In 1981, The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada was born.

The Vision Prayer of the C&MA in Canada is:

“O God, with all our hearts, we long for You. Come, transform us to be Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered, Mission-focused people, multiplying disciples everywhere.”

**The above section is taken from “Who We Are: Our Alliance Family.”

The Distinctives of the Christian & Missionary Alliance

The character of the C&MA can be best described in its desire to be both a deeper life in Jesus and a missions-minded movement. The heart of the denomination is around the all sufficiency of Jesus Christ as our Saviour, our Sanctifier, our Healer, and our Coming King.

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12.

With a commitment to the inerrancy of the Bible we affirm the Holy Scriptures as the source of all truth which declares that Jesus Christ is **“the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6)**



In Christ we become a “new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17) and begin a journey of being transformed to be like Christ – the essence of Sanctification.

Within Christ we recognize the invitation for physical healing. We are invited in James 5: 14 – 16 to ask to be anointed with oil for healing as we confess our sins, and to know that Christ is sufficient for the needs of the body – both in terms of physical healing and in terms of endurance and faithfulness when such is required during prolonged sufferings.

The promise of the Scriptures is that Jesus is coming again as our coming King. His first coming was to bring an offer of grace, transformation, and healing. In His Second Coming, Jesus will be declared:

“King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” (Revelation 19:16)

With: **“the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.”**
(Philippians 2: 9b-11)



What Are The Requirements for Church Membership?

The requirements for membership within a C&MA church reflect the Great Commission that the Lord Jesus Christ gave to the Church:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28: 18 – 20

As such, membership in the Fort Macleod Alliance Church consist of:

- A credible testimony of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Believer’s Baptism (**Baptism following one’s decision to follow Jesus Christ**)
- A commitment to the purposes of the local church & the responsibilities of Church Membership.
- A commitment to the denominational Statement of Faith (**a summary of the basic teachings of the Bible that C&MA churches share in common**)
- A commitment to work within the framework of the local church constitution, bylaws, and discipline procedures of the C&MA in Canada.
- Application & interview with the Board of Elders.
- Signing of Membership Covenant.

What Are The Responsibilities of Church Membership?

1. To live daily to please the Lord through the power of the Holy Spirit and in accordance with the Scriptures.
(1 Corinthians 6:19 – 20; Romans 6:13; Colossians 3: 1-7)
2. To study the Bible and pray faithfully and diligently
(2 Timothy 3:16 – 17; Colossians 4:2; Psalm 119: 9 – 11; 1 Peter 4:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)
3. To be supportive of the people and ministries of the local church (1 Peter 4:8; Acts 2:42 – 47)
4. To be faithful, insofar as possible, to attend worship and prayer services, business meetings and other ministries of the church which will aid in spiritual growth and further it’s purposes in ministry. (Hebrews 10:25)
5. To use the spiritual gifts and abilities, God has given, to serve others in & through the local church
(1 Peter 4:10-11; 1 Corinthians 12: 7 – 11)
6. To give regularly, proportionately, generously and cheerfully for the work of the Lord (Malachi 3:8 – 10; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:7)
7. To be accountable to one another within the church for any sin which may need correction or church discipline.
(Galatians 6:1; Matthew 18: 15 – 17)

****Wording from above section borrowed from other sources.**



How Do I Become A Member of the Fort Macleod Alliance Church?

By reading this, you have started! If you wish to pursue this further, you will be asked to read the church constitution which includes the Statement of Faith, as well as the By-laws on how our church is structured, and the Membership Covenant.

Next, you will fill out an application form, including your “faith story”, which will then be reviewed and discussed with you by the Pastor and/or one of the Elder’s Board.

If both yourself and the leadership are in agreement on proceeding, the Elder’s Board will discuss & vote on receiving the membership application. Afterwards, you will be welcomed into membership at a Sunday Service.

For more information, please contact the Pastor or one of the members of the Board of Elders:

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1716 7A Ave, Box 608
Fort Macleod, AB. T0L 0Z0
Ph. # 403 – 553-4607
fmchurch@telusplanet.net
fortmacleodalliancechurch.com

Please go to the Members Page of our website to access the following : (fortmacleodalliancechurch.com)

1. Statement of Faith.
2. Local Church Constitution
3. Local Church Bylaws
4. Who We Are: Our C&MA Family
5. Membership Covenant

****If you do not have internet access, please get copies of the above from the church office.**



Membership Covenant
Of The
Fort Macleod Alliance Church

- 1) I will protect the unity of my church by acting in love towards other members, by refusing to gossip, discussing directly with involved individuals if an issue arises, and by following the leaders as they follow The Lord.
- 2) I will share in the responsibility of my church by praying for it's health, by encouraging others in their walk with God, by inviting the unchurched to attend, and by warmly welcoming those who visit.
- 3) I will serve the ministry of my church by discovering my gifts and talents, by allowing my pastors and leaders to help equip me to serve, and by developing a servant's heart.
- 4) I will support the testimony of my church by attending it's services faithfully, by living a godly life, and by giving regularly.



The Vision Prayer of the Christian &
Missionary Alliance in Canada:

*"O God, with all our hearts, We long for You.
Come, Transform us to be
Christ-centered,
Spirit-empowered,
Mission Focused people,
Multiplying disciples everywhere."*

**For more information about the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada or the Western Canadian District, go to:

Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada: www.cmacan.org

Western Canadian District: [_www.transformcma.ca](http://www.transformcma.ca)