

## Church membership

Christ the King Community Church is one of the congregations that makes up the Walton Churches Partnership. This is a multi-denominational ecumenical church whose members meet in a number of places across the Walton area.

Those who serve the Lord through our congregations are invited to mark their commitment by becoming a church member. This commitment entitles them to take part in the running of the local church congregations and Walton Churches Partnership as a whole.

### what are the criteria for church membership?

You can become a church member if you are a committed Christian, if you accept the beliefs of the church, and if you understand and accept its implications.

### do I have to be baptised?

The Bible tells us that Baptism is an important part of Christian discipleship, and so would ask you to prayerfully consider this.

We recognise as valid all types of baptism practices accepted by our parent denominations. However, people who have not been baptised can still become members.

For more information regarding baptism, please see the baptism leaflet.

## Our faith

As church members we believe in the following principles:

1. Our one true eternal God exists in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is the creator, sustainer, ruler, redeemer and judge of all.
2. God inspired people to write His Word in the form of the Bible, revealing His plan and His love for us all.
3. God created us all in His image and deserves our love and obedience.
4. Death entered the world, separating us from God.
5. Through the sacrificial death and resurrection of the one perfect man, Jesus Christ, we can reconnect with God.
6. The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.
7. If we accept this gift from God, He lives in us (spiritually), empowering us to live and love in Him and help others to know Him.
8. The Church is the living body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers - given life by the Spirit and endowed by the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.

**“ In essentials, unity,  
In non-essentials, liberty,  
In all things charity.”**

.....Augustine

Christ the King  
Community Church

Frithwood Crescent Kents Hill MK7 6HQ

Walton Churches Partnership  
Working together in faith and hope to show the love of Christ

## Becoming a Church Member



## what does ecumenical mean?

Our church is a partnership by the Anglican, Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed churches. We also share our church building at Christ the King with a Roman Catholic congregation. We all have a heart for Jesus and our original affiliations matter less as we focus on our key faith. You will find this both inspiring and challenging.

## what is church membership?

Church membership is simply the way that an individual identifies their spiritual home. If you are a committed Christian and regularly worship here then church membership is for you.

## why should I consider church membership?

There are good reasons for becoming more than just an attendee at church. A Church is not just another club which exists for the benefit of its members. Despite its imperfections, the local church is God's vehicle for the transformation of his people and his blessing on their local community. This is achieved as individuals commit to the Lord and to one another as the body of Christ.

## what are the implications?

The responsibilities of church members are those expected of any Christian disciple as members of a local church. From guidance in the Bible, these include:

- Seeking to live a life of a disciple, consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and to encourage the spread of the Gospel of Christ.
- Accepting the privilege and challenges of 'belonging' to a family (Romans 12:5)! That means giving help, encouragement, care and support to others; and receiving the same in return.
- To contribute, as able, resources of time, prayer and finance to the work of the church
- To serve God with the unique gifts that He has given to you and with the unique person that He has made you to be (Romans 12:4-8). We celebrate our unity in the diversity we have!

Membership is available from the age of 12 upwards.

All children under 12 of a church member can be registered as an *'Associate Member'* and can apply to become full members from the age of 12 onwards.

In special circumstances an adult can also be an Associate Member.

## ceasing to be a member

You may cancel or transfer your membership at any time. For example, you may move away to another area, or you may, for whatever reason, feel led to join another church. Although we are always sad when someone cancels their membership, our primary concern is the growth of God's Kingdom, not the number of our members.

## what happens when I apply?

After you have applied for membership, two of our current members will arrange to meet you. They will ask how you became a Christian and briefly talk about what it means to be a church member.

You will also ask you to fill in a membership form to log your details (which are subject to our Data Privacy Policy).

Normally applications for membership are approved at the next church business meeting. After your application is accepted, we would welcome you into membership publicly at the next communion service that is convenient to you.

Christ the King Community Church  
Frithwood Crescent,  
Kents Hill, Milton Keynes, MK7 6HQ

[www.christthekingchurchmk.co.uk](http://www.christthekingchurchmk.co.uk)