



KNOWING JESUS ... MAKING HIM KNOWN

### Application for Membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches:

General Instructions: Fill out this application form and send it with your membership fee to the FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, P.O. Box 384, WINONA LAKE, IN 46590 and send a file copy as an attachment to [tomavey@fgbc.org](mailto:tomavey@fgbc.org). The deadline for application is January 1st in order to be considered in the following annual conference. If you wish to request an extension of this deadline, include a letter of reference from a cooperating district missions board, a sponsoring church that is already a member of the FGBC, or Grace Brethren Missions.

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Official Name of Church

Sterling Grace Brethren Church

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Church Mailing Address 483 Wingate Place

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City Mt. Sterling

State OHIO

Zip 43143

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Phone (740) 497-6500

Email [mcordell@sterlinggracechurch.org](mailto:mcordell@sterlinggracechurch.org)

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Meeting Place Mt. Sterling Community Center  
164 E. Main St., Mt. Sterling, OH

Web Site:  
[www.sterlinggracechurch.org](http://www.sterlinggracechurch.org)

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Pastor or principle leader Martin A. (MAC) Cordell

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Address 483 Wingate Place

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City Mt. Sterling

State OHIO

Zip 43143

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Phone (614) 893-0035

Email [mcordell@sterlinggracechurch.org](mailto:mcordell@sterlinggracechurch.org)

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**Has your church joined a cooperating district? If so, which one and when?** We are in the process of joining the North Central Ohio District. We have an enthusiastic sponsor church and are on the agenda for the next district meeting for membership acceptance into the district.

Please review the Constitution and Manual of Procedure for the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. Note carefully ARTICLE III and ARTICLE IV of the Constitution and ARTICLE I of the Manual of Procedure that deal with the membership requirements new FGBC churches are to meet.

**How did your local church take official action to subscribe to the Covenant and Statement of Faith as found in Article III of the Constitution of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.?**

I think the first and most obvious is the fellowships desire to be formally adopted as a fellowship within the larger body.

Additionally, It has continued to remain under the leadership of an elder approved by the FGBC licensing committee. Grace Brethren doctrine is preached weekly and ordinances, specific to the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, are practiced regularly

**List the present responsible officers (or leaders) of the congregation with titles:**

MacCordell — Pastor

Doug Shotsky — Leadership team

Lori Beisler — Leadership team

**How will you identify your affiliation with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (ie: on a church sign, letterhead, church bulletin, etc).**

The Church bulletin, as well as all church communications and literature identify the church as a part of the FGBC. Currently, the church website lists the church as an effort VisionOhio. Once the church is officially accepted into the fellowship, the site will include that information as well. Future advertising efforts of the church will also identify it with FGBC.

**Describe your practice of Triune Immersion and the Threefold Communion Service.**

The church has held two celebrations of baptism, with a third planned. In the past we have baptized in the Lake at Deer Creek.

We also celebrate the Three-Fold Communion Service several times each year, trying to hold at least one celebration each season.

**To the best of your knowledge, does your church or any leadership of your church have unresolved problems with another Grace Brethren church, leader, district or cooperating organization? If so, who can we contact for clarification? No**

**In seeking membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, does your church recognize the obligation of mutual encouragement and cooperation with other congregations and agree to fulfill the membership requirements as stated in the Constitution and Manual of Procedure? Yes**

**How many people are presently members of this church? 0** We have not yet formally defined or adopted the membership process for Sterling Grace. That will be addressed in the near future.

A check payable to FGBC based on the chart below for the current year membership fee should be included with this application. Use your church's average attendance for 2007.

Attendance	Fee
Less than 25	\$ 50
26-50	\$ 105
51-100	\$ 265
101-200	\$ 525
201-400	\$ 1,050
401-800	\$ 2,100
801-1600	\$ 4,200

**Attach or give a brief history or testimony about your churches ministry, including pictures of the church or church leadership that we can use to introduce your church to the FGBC family.**

Sterling Grace began as a love and vision for Mt. Sterling through VisionOhio's church planting effort. The group started meeting for Bible study in the homes of its members. As the group grew, it continued to meet Sunday evenings, though it moved to the chapel of the Mt. Sterling Community Center. At that time, Tony Webb (then pastor of Sterling Grace's parent

church Southwest Grace) was shepherding the group.

Current pastor Mac Cordell began attending the evening services and quickly felt a call to shepherd the group. Webb and Cordell began a year-long process of transitioning the group. At the end of that year, the group moved to a larger meeting room and began meeting on Sunday mornings.

Since that time, the group has grown.

The fellowship believes strongly that we have a responsibility to be active in our community. We have planned several specific outreach events — dinner and a movie for couple; movie night in the park; grocery distribution; marriage enrichment classes for the community.

We have also taken to hear the needs of the community. We saw there are needs not being met by local social services and the group allocated \$2,500 in December to help folks, not part of our fellowship, but in our community. We were able to participate as God supplied heating oil for a family of five; rent for a disabled man and his family that had received an eviction notice (he was approved for disability but the paperwork was 10 weeks behind); a refrigerator for a single mother just exiting an abusive relationship; tires for a family of four; auto repair for several families; as well as other projects.