

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 <a href="mailto:tomavey@fgbc.org">tomavey@fgbc.org</a>. 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.

State	Zip
Ohio	44805
Email	
njwells01@yahoo.com	
Web Site	
State	Zip
Oh	44805
Email	
njwells@yahoo.com	
	Ohio  Email njwells01@yahoo.com  Web Site  State Oh  Email

Has your church joined a cooperating district? If so, which one and when?

Not yet, but will join NEO later in year 2012

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.?
Statement of Faith; relational connection with both mother church: Ashland West Main; NEO District and VisionOhio
List the present responsible officers (or leaders) of the congregation with titles:
Pastor Nathan Wells Pastor Jim Norris Mark Holsinger (Elder in training) Andy Shank (Elder in training & Church Planter)
How will you identify your affiliation with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (ie: on a church sign, letterhead,
church bulletin, etc).
Connection through Statement of Faith and activities tied with FGBC.
Describe your practice of Triune Immersion and the Threefold Communion Service.
We practice Triune Immersion as our only form of water baptism and practice Threefold Communion several times per year.
To the best or 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?
None.
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?

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How many people are presently members of this church? \_\_\_\_\_100\_\_\_\_\_

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 multiplied by \$3.90

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

EastGate Bible Church was planted out of a ministry of Ashland GBC in 2006. It originally started as a ministry to the multitude of children running around a low-income apartment complex in Ashland, OH. The Lord then provided an opportunity to begin a weekly Bible study with some of the adults who were hanging around the apartments as well. Right from the start the Lord began invading lives and saving individuals and families who all lived together in this apartment complex. Weekly "church" became floor seats in whatever apartment was empty that week. God continued to grow this "Spiritual Community" and soon a building at the rear of the apt complex was available. Through a miracle, God provided that building and land surrounding it which enabled the weekly apartment Bible study to expand to Sundays and give opportunity to reach the whole east side of Ashland. God has done amazing, miraculous things throughout the life of EastGate Bible Church. He has redeemed entire families, He has freed many from generational sins and habits, and He has infused this group of people with a fiery love for their true Savior, Jesus Christ!

The believers at EastGate Bible Church are a rare breed. They are experiencing daily freedom and daily dependence on their new-found "Daddy". Their love and passion is raw and real. These believers worship from hearts that know the depths and emptiness of sin, and have instead received (for the first time in most of their lives) unmerited favor and overflowing love! They are bold, unafraid, and unapologetic for the way they share Jesus with everyone they meet. Many of the people at EastGate will say that this is the family and Jesus is the love they never knew. Starting with that Bible Study, God has saved almost 200 lives in the past 5 years. We are thrilled and blown away at His grace.

EastGate has also been instrumental in beginning a similar work in another low-income apartment complex down the street in Mansfield, OH. (led by Andy and Kim Shank). If the Lord is willing, EastGate Bible Church will be the first of many similar churches planted in low-income apartment complexes all across Ohio.



Our first VBS... some kids walked over alone and got saved and brought their parents!



Our second baptism! Whole families together!



Some of our 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday party outside!



Nathan and Jena Wells. EastGate Church Building on right, Stoney Creek apartments in rear. Praise God!