



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. 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.

Soma Community Church

Official Name of Church

Soma Community Church

Church Mailing Address

PO Box 2871

City

Springfield

State

Ohio

Zip

45501

Phone

(937) 371 - 4046

Email

info@discoversoma.org

Meeting Place

Currently Mobile

Web Site

www.discoversoma.org

Pastor or principle leader

David Black

Address

251 Ridge Rd

City

Springfield

State

Oh

Zip

45503

Phone

(937) 371 - 4046

Email

dave@discoversoma.org

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

Application has been submitted to the tri state ministerium (not sure what district this is)

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.?

We are a church plant founded in partnership with the Tri State GBC, church planting assoc. As we developed and began the church was planted with the intent of being a GBC church plant. Consequently the Statement of Faith was agreed upon by the church planting team prior to the start of the plant. The team consisted of those individuals listed on the Articles of incorporation as trustees and their spouses. The Statement of faith is included in our constitution and is a requirement for membership.

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

**David Black, Pastor – Teacher
Ted Rastatter, Pastor – Worship & Arts
Matt Ison, - Assimilation Coordinator**

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

Letterhead and website

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

Triune Immersion can be performed by any believer and at any location where there is adequate water for Immersion. The individual to be baptized states his or her brief testimony and intent to all present. This action is then followed by the individual performing the baptism dunking the baptizee(?) three separate times while testifying each action as being done "in the name of" each member of the trinity. The baptizer may or may not take the time to explain that the ordinance is not done for salvation to occur, but rather faith is what saves, etc.

Three Fold Communion is practiced by our church quarterly and corporately. It is typically done at night as a separate service. Ladies wash ladies feet, men wash other men (exception can be made for a husband and wife). This is followed by a meal, and lastly the bread and cup. We do it to "make intimacy a reality" Intimacy with God and with one another.

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?

Not that we are currently aware.

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? As a church plant we currently have a core group of approx 45 people. We are currently going through the process of moving them toward a covenant membership. We anticipate at least 35-40 will complete the necessary requirements.

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.

How does this work for a church plant?

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 church's ministry, including pictures of the church or church leadership that we can use to introduce your church to the FGBC family.

Soma Community Church was birthed out of prayer and vision for the city of Springfield. In August of 2007 Dave Black and Ted Rastatter approached Tri State GBC Church Planting with the expressed purpose of sharing a vision for a new church plant in Springfield. After a year of prayer and planning in which Ted and Dave met with individuals from tri-state district, vision Ohio, and the then GBNAM, Soma began its first core group meetings in August of 2008. As soon as October Soma had its first preview service that was attended by 80 individuals. This gathering was then followed by one in November at which 65-70 individuals also came to attend. God has been working in the city through the members of the core group and has been providing for Soma every step of the way.