



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.

Official Name of Church
Awaken

Church Mailing Address
PO Box 41303

City Norfolk	State VA	Zip 23541
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Phone 757-615-3421	Email pumphrey.michael@gmail.com
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Meeting Place Pembroke Regal 8 Theater 4554 Virginia Beach Blvd, Virginia Beach, VA 23462	Web Site www.awakenvirginiabeach.com
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Pastor or principle leader
Michael Pumphrey

Address
701 Lake Edward Drive

City Virginia Beach	State VA	Zip 23462
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Phone 757-615-3421	Email pumphrey.michael@gmail.com
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Has your church joined a cooperating district? If so, which one and when?

We are part of the Chesapeake District and have been connected since the beginning of the church plant.

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.?

When I founded the church I set forth our Statement of Faith as the same Statement that is prescribed to in the Grace Brethren Fellowship. We were a church that was mothered by the Grace Brethren Church in Richmond and I am from the Grace Brethren Church in Norton and Bath. Therefore this was natural for my theology to align with the Grace Brethren Fellowship and set start the church off of the same.

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

Presently I (Michael Pumphrey) am the sole elder in the church until we are able to raise up other elders from within. We planted the church at Easter of 2010 and therefore do not feel like we have qualified men from within that are able to lead in this capacity. Currently we run off the elder board of Northstar Community Church.

Within the church we have the following leadership in place however.

Jon Walker = Church Treasurer

Leigha Canterbury = Children's Director

Chris Springer = Spiritual Formations

Drew Houvener = Media/Tech Coordinator

Lani Joslin = Outreach Coordinator

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

We will make mention of our affiliation on our website.

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

This past fall we had our first baptism and I baptized our people through Triune Immersion because this is what I have found the scriptures to teach through my studies. Our goal with communion is to have the full Threefold Communion Service 4 times a year at a special time and place. In between times we may choose to do the bread and the cup on a Sunday Morning. But we hold fast to the scripture showing us a Threefold Communion.

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?

There are no unresolved issues that Awaken has with another church.

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?

Absolutely we are hugely connected with other Grace Brethren Churches as well as other churches here locally. We strongly believe in the cooperation of churches for the advancement of God's Kingdom.

How many people are presently members of this church? _____30_____

We currently do not have membership, but have a strong 30 in our core that are committed to the vision of seeing Awaken become a fully functioning church. We have about 40 that call the church their home. We are still developing the structure of the church and once we do we will have a membership process within the church.

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.

My wife and I moved to Virginia Beach in August of 2008 with the vision of starting a new church to reach un-churched people. We saw and still see the potential of this area (Hampton Roads) as becoming a doorstep to the nations with the gospel. Due to the extreme transient nature of the area as a result of the heavy military concentration we believe that we can see people reached, disciplined, and then trained to take the gospel with them as they learn to live on mission. Our goal is to plant churches all around Hampton Roads with this vision of reaching the nations.

Through first year and a half of learning the culture, building relationships, and sharing Christ we formed a team of 8 people that helped Launch the church in a local movie theater as we took our worship gatherings from our living room to a more public place. We launched the church publically at Easter of 2010 and have seen close to 40 people now call the church their home. Out of that 40 there are close to 30 that have bought into the vision, are serving, and learning what it means to tithe and give God first. We are reaching an interesting demographic of mostly 20's and 30's that a year ago were not involved in a church. We are seeing people give their lives to Christ and learn what it means to serve and love Christ while loving the people around them. A large percentage of our people are military, which creates unique culture that we are continuing to learn and see the full potential in of reaching the nations.

We are able to boast of numerous partnerships of varying degrees. We went through Go-2-Church Planting for assessment and sought their blessing for moving to Virginia Beach from Northeast Ohio, which is home. We were partnered with Richmond GBC and Dave Kennedy and through them brought into the Chesapeake District. We have been helped through the Chesapeake District, Goshen GBC & Jim Brown, the Ellet GBC & Jonathan Carey, Calvert County GBC & Bob Wagner, and are speaking with Doug Jensen at Norton GBC and Jeff Bogue at Akron GBC. Along with the Grace Brethren Fellowship we have also formed partnerships here locally with the Baptist Association at the local level and the state level. In addition we are partnered both financially and with mentoring through Northstar Community Church in Fredrick Maryland & Kevin Marsico.

One of the biggest things I have learned through this process of starting a church from scratch is that it takes a lot of people and a large support network in addition to what is on the ground. We could not still be planting this church and reaching this area with the Gospel if it were not for each of these unique and valuable partnerships. Each one has played a different and vital role in helping get this off the ground and each one will continue to play that same role until we have successfully seen Awaken planted and are beginning to plant other churches.

