

BECOMING A MEMBER



MEMBER

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So we, though many,
are one body in Christ,
and individually
members one of
another.
Romans 12:5

WELCOME

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Why become a member of Saltash Baptist Church?

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together”

1 Corinthians 12:21-26

Becoming a member is to become part of a group of people who watch over and walk with one another in ways known, and yet to be made known. This means we *commit* to support one another in our journey of faith.

Do you have to know all the answers and be certain in all areas of faith?

You do not. We are all on a journey and all experience the love of God in different ways and encourage, pray, uphold and learn from each other.

Do you have to be baptised by total immersion?

Although it is a traditional Baptist belief to be baptised by total immersion, it is not a prerequisite to becoming a member. Membership is based on your confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

Do you have to go up to the front of the church and answer lots of questions?

You will be asked to go up to the front for a couple reasons.

1. That people will know exactly who you are.
2. That you will be asked if you believe in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and you will answer yes.
3. The congregation will be asked to support you in your journey with them and they will answer yes.
4. We will pray for you and the person leading will pass to you a certificate with a bible verse to encourage you.

That is it, we want this to be a significant moment for you. Membership in a church is more than joining a gym, or a subscription service, it is about affirming your place in the body of Christ here in this location.

What do I have to give if I become a member?

There are two areas of giving which are important in our Church. That is giving of your God given practical gifts and the giving of financial gifts.

We recognise that these are different for each person and therefore it is not for us to check up on these givings, but it is between yourself and God. The Church has many different projects, outreach and internal groups that all need supporting and therefore the giving of your time is important.

We are a self-funding church in that our main source of income is from the congregation. Without this the church could not run as we do have a building and manse to maintain together with all of the usual house bills. We do ask people to pray re their giving and to gift aid if they can but it is a matter between you and Lord. The inability to give money and offer time to the church does not preclude you from becoming a member.

I want to become a member what happens next?

Either contact us with the details on the first page, or speak to the Church Secretary or one of the Ministers, you will receive a home visit or possibly go out for coffee with two church members just to get to know you. They will also encourage you to discover where you would like to be involved, welcome team, prayer team, children's work for example. However, there is no pressure, it will be a relaxed visit. After this, they will write a few words to the church members for the next church meeting and you will be advised asap when you will be received into membership which is usually the next communion service.



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