

**At Lakeside,** we welcome people who affirm faith in Jesus to partner with us in our mission and vision. Partners of Lakeside are those who often say, "This is my church." Partners make a commitment with one another in order to live into the mission and pursue the vision to, "Share Life, Pursue Jesus and Change the World." People 12 yrs old and older are invited to become partners at Lakeside through this process.

## **Partnership At Lakeside**

Membership is often more about the benefits you receive or the perks. This is why we are intentional about what we believe is a better way of partnering together. **Partnership** is a significant step of faith, making a commitment to one another and with God for a common mission. It's far more about how we can contribute, as partners, to the work God is doing in and through the local church. We invite people to partner with us and offer the opportunity to reaffirm their commitment **annually**. We believe this creates a more authentic experience to say—yes to this growing community of Jesus followers. Partners at Lakeside play a vital role in the direction of the church and called upon to approve the annual budget as well as significant hires, major decisions, and new ministry initiatives.

## **Becoming a Partner At Lakeside**

By God's grace, we seek to live lives in a manner consistent with the standards of biblical teaching, including the support of this congregation, in order to live lives in word and deed that are an encouragement to others—to know and be like Jesus Christ, and reflect in all relationships the servant love of Jesus.

## Partnership at Lakeside is open to people who...

- a. have said YES, in faith, to a personal relationship with Jesus
- b. have gone public with their faith in Jesus through baptism (as an infant or believer) or on a journey toward one day being baptized.
- c. desire to live in a manner consistent with the standards of biblical teaching, and promise to faithfully support Lakeside by serving regularly, giving faithfully and sacrificially and participating consistently in the life, ministries, and priorities of Lakeside.

## **Partner Commitment**

If your desire is to partner with Lakeside, please sign below. We value relationships and ask partners to complete the *Behavioral Covenant* that can be found on our website under "connect." We honor your journey of faith and we find value in sharing one another's stories. On the back of this form, in a few paragraphs, please share about significant moments that led you to commit your life to Jesus and how living in a relationship with Him changes everything.

Signature:		Date:
Name:		
Address:		
Email:	Phone (	)

Lakeside is a member church of the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC), a multiethnic movement of 875 congregations in the United States and Canada with ministries on five continents of the world. The ECC values the Bible as the word of God, the gift of God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, the call to extend God's love to a hurting world, and the strength that comes from unity within diversity. For more information about the ECC, go to www.covchurch.org



Everybody's journey of faith is different and none are the same. Your journey of discovering Jesus, placing your faith and trust in him, and seeking to live your life fully devoted to him is powerful and an important part of who we are as a community. Please share about significant moments that led you to commit your life to Jesus and how living in relationship with him changes everything. Before writing your faith journey (testimony), take a pause and pray, thanking God for the gift of new life.

To help you reflect on your faith journey, there are often a few elements and questions that can help give shape to what you share. Stories often have 3 movements or seasons of saying "yes" to Jesus.

**First**, what was your life like before knowing Jesus? **Second**, what was the moment or series of moments that helped you step forward to believe in Jesus and receive his love and forgiveness? **Third**, what is life in relationship with Jesus like now with and what changes have you experienced?

**Prompting Questions and Reflection:** Here are some prompting questions or phrases to help you begin sharing your faith journey (though, do not feel you need to answer these directly).

Before knowing and receiving God's love through Jesus, life looked more like...

Knowing Jesus, trusting in him and my relationship with him gives me the...

- Before knowing Jesus, I believed life was about...
- What did God use to help get a hold of your attention and your heart?
- God used a (friend, family member, significant life experiences) to help begin my faith in Jesus.
- For many years, I believed, thought, felt... but then God...