



LUMBER·CITY
CHURCH

Membership Information Packet

Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you filled with Love and Power. Thank you for taking a step into a deeper commitment to the mission of Lumber City Church.



**LUMBER CITY
CHURCH**

As we get closer to the cross of Christ, we get closer to one another. It only makes sense (and is biblically supported) to commit to a covenant to pursue His will for His glory as His people UNITED in mind, mission, and Spirit. (John 17)

Church membership isn't something to take lightly! It is a step deeper into the mission of the church. The deeper you go into the mission, the closer you will come to the realities of the messiness of what it means to be in relationships with others. It's another level of following Jesus that causes us to check ourselves as we look into the mirror of our faith. Membership, plain and simple, is a call to a deeper level of self-denial. At the same time, the benefit is the closer relationships that you will be a part of! Not only will you be closer to Jesus as you serve in His mission, but you'll also benefit from the people that God surrounds you with who are ALSO endeavoring to put YOUR needs before their own! This is the beauty of the body of Christ!

The greatest outcome of a unified membership is the glory (fame) that Jesus receives. As the world tells us to protect ourselves and not trust anyone, Jesus calls us to be vulnerable and trust Him. As the world tells us to protect our wealth, Jesus calls us to give it all away. As the world teaches that life is defined by the strength of the individual, Jesus calls us to become weak as a part of a community that defines us. The world is watching! As we practice these things in UNITY, the world will see that Jesus is worth following as they see His image being lived out in a community of mutual sacrifice.

At Lumber City Church, membership is an intentional and prayerful process. Unlike some churches that offer open membership sign-ups, we take a different approach. Our Pastoral Leadership Team and Church Council carefully consider new members at our monthly meetings, reaching out to those whom we see already living out the heart of our mission. We seek individuals who exhibit a personal, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ, are committed to the vision and beliefs of our church, demonstrate their faith through regular financial giving and serving, and are willing to be led by the Pastoral Leadership Team and Church Council. When we recognize these qualities in someone, we invite them into a deeper covenant with our church family.

According to The LCC Constitution (Article VI: Membership): Anyone who wishes to be considered for Membership into this Church must:

- Have clear evidence of a personal, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Be committed to the vision, mission, and beliefs of our church.
- Demonstrate their support through regular and consistent financial giving of a tithe and serving.
- Agree to be led by the Pastoral Leadership Team and the Church Council. **(Continued ->)**

According to the LCC Bylaws (Section 1: Qualifications): Individuals may become members in good standing if they satisfy the following criteria:

- Demonstrate evidence of being born again and being a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ.
- Agree to the Church's Statement of Faith, Constitution, and Bylaws.
- Have signed a Membership Covenant approved by the Pastor and Church Council.
- Participate regularly in primary worship services and other ministry opportunities held by Lumber City Church.
- Contribute regularly to the financial support of Lumber City Church.
- Complete requirements as determined by the Lead Pastor.

We believe that membership is more than just joining a church—it's entering into a deeper relationship with Jesus and His people. If you have been approached about membership, it's because we already see these qualities in you and want to invite you to take this step with us.

Your Friend,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "REV. CHAD RIESELMAN". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "R" and a star-like flourish above the "E" in "RIESELMAN".

Pastor Chad Rieselman

General Information

This Membership packet includes:

- The LCC Pastoral Leadership Resolutions (Sample)
- The “Processes and Pathways” Diagrams
- Supporting Scriptures
- The Lumber City Church Membership Covenant. (2 copies. Sign and Return second Copy)

Current Leadership:

Our constitution and Bylaws provide for a Pastoral Leadership Team and a Church Council to serve as the Biblical Elders of the church. Here is the list of names of the people that serve on those teams.

Pastoral Leadership Team (Appointed)

Chad Rieselman Christina Rieselman Steve Burow Katelyn Burow Alison Aitchison Steve Aitchison Melissa Ziemendorf Don Ziemendorf	Josiah Evans Bethany Evans Alex Domaradzki Tera Domaradzki Autumn Knowlton Graig Knowlton Whitney Kufel Joey Kufel
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Church Council Members: (Ratified)

- Steve Burow (Trustee)
- Alison Aitchison (Trustee / Treasurer)
- Joey Kufel (PLT Representative)
- Alex Domaradzki (Trustee / Secretary)
- Chad Rieselman (Chairman)

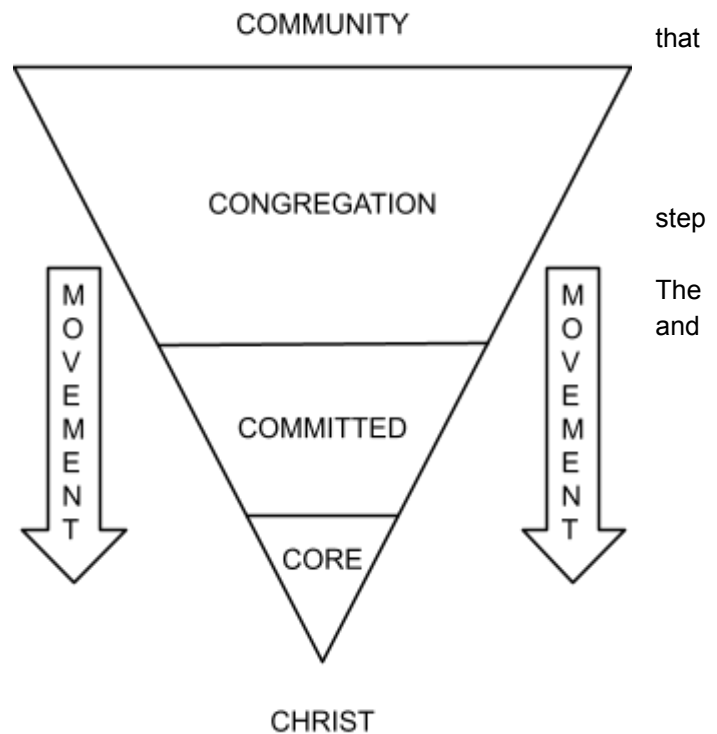
Pastor Chad's Contact Information:

Phone: 716-243-9504

Email: Chad@LumberCityChurch.com

Our Pathway and our Process

We exist to serve God and serve one another. Our hope is that Lumber City Church becomes a place serves this community so well that it would be impossible for us to close our doors because of the impact we make in the lives of the people of our community. The diagram on the right shows that service to the community is our highest value. Each in the process of discipleship is a step lower. The Congregation is willing to serve the community. Committed are willing to serve the congregation the community. The core is willing to serve the committed, the congregation and the community. Each phase of the discipleship process calls for deeper relationships with Jesus and His people.



The Community:

These are the people that God has us here to serve. We believe it is God's will that we serve the church and the unchurched alike.

The Congregation:

These are the people that come to Lumber City Church on a regular basis. Some are engaged in and all are encouraged to find relationships in Life Groups and give and serve as they are led.

The Committed:

This is the membership of the church. The committed have pledged to give toward the mission of Lumber City Church in all of the ways that the Bible prescribes for followers of Jesus Christ. They are unified and committed to the mission God has given us. They have agreed to be accountable to their pledge to serve. They are expected to be in a Life Group, serve somewhere in the church, support the church financially and share their faith in their circles of influence outside of the church family.

The Core:

The Core are people who fit the Biblical leadership qualifications of an Elder. They are called by God to sacrifice at great levels to lead, communicate and defend the vision of the church. They are all engaged in Life Groups, lead ministries and are expected to be ready when called upon by the Lead Pastor for help in serving and leading. Theirs is the highest level of responsibility for the vision and execution of church business.

Lumber City Church Membership Supporting Scriptures

- **1 Corinthians 12:12-26** (Full Passage)
- **Ephesians 4:4-16** (Full Passage)
- **Matthew 16:18** - *"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."*
- **1 Corinthians 12:27** - *"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."*
- **Acts 2:47** - *"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."*
- **Hebrews 10:25** - *"Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."*
- **Romans 12:4-5** - *"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."*
- **1 Corinthians 1:10** - *"I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment."*
- **Acts 20:28** - *"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood."*
- **1 Timothy 3:15** - *"If I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth."*
- **1 Peter 5:2-3** - *"Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock."*
- **1 Corinthians 12:27**: *"All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it."*
- **Ephesians 4:15-16**: *"Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."*
- **Colossians 1:18**: *"Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything."*
- **Colossians 1:24**: *"I am glad when I suffer for you in my body, for I am participating in the sufferings of Christ that continue for his body, the church."*
- **Colossians 3:15**: *"And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful."*

SAMPLE Lumber City Church Pastoral

Leadership Resolutions

THIS IS A SAMPLE... The Pastoral Leadership Team signs this covenant agreement as they are adopted into leadership. Every time a new leader is added, we sign a new covenant for that new team. This is what you can expect from leaders at Lumber City Church.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ; His perfect Life, sacrificial death and glorious resurrection serve as the reason WHY we choose to faithfully serve God as leaders of Lumber City Church for the advance of His Good News.

Our CORE values are RELATIONSHIPS and TRANSFORMATION and SACRIFICE. We ALSO value; Community, Humility, Innovation, Diligence, Simple and clear communication, and Missional Behavior. These values of Lumber City Church inform WHAT we will do.

This document is to serve as a clear framework for key behaviors that will be: HOW Lumber City Church Leaders are expected to behave as servant leaders. It also serves as a simple way to evaluate our progress as an organization by measuring the "people metric" of the leaders themselves.

Because of the high level of responsibility given to leaders and the level of investment required, we voluntarily and mutually agree to practice the following behaviors because we believe they will keep our team rooted in our values and active in the clear mission that God has given us: "To make the name of Jesus famous in North Tonawanda and beyond by creating a community of disciples that love God and love all"

We resolve to:

- **IMPROVE:** I agree to put energy into always making things better.
 - What am I doing to make us improve organizationally?
- **SOLVE:** I agree to stay on the solution side of every issue.
 - What problems have I identified in our organization?
 - What am I doing to implement creative solutions to those problems?
- **FINISH:** I agree to finish everything I've agreed to start.
 - What have you left undone?
- **COLLABORATE:** I agree to have my brother/sister's back by collaborating for success.
 - What have you done to protect someone on our team?
 - How have I loaned myself to another department?
- **PARTICIPATE:** I agree to show buy-in through participation in the life of the church.
 - How am I personally engaged in LCC's mission and vision?
 - Are you in a discipleship relationship, Life Group, Tithing?
- **ASK:** I agree to speak up every time something is not clear to me or when I need help.
 - Are you confused about anything?
 - What do you need help to finish?
- **FLEX:** I agree to embrace change.
 - How have you shown "open handedness"?
 - Have you given up that you loved, for the good of LCC?

I have been appointed as a leader within Lumber City Church. I take very seriously the commitment of my time, talent and treasure this requires. I submit myself to the Pastoral Leadership and understand that I will undergo regular evaluation because of the importance of this servant leadership position. THIS IS A SAMPLE OF THE COVENANT OUR ELDER LEADERS AGREE TO.

Lumber City Church Membership Covenant Agreement

(MEMBER copy)

The mission of Lumber City Church is: To make the Name of Jesus famous in North Tonawanda and Beyond by creating a community of disciples that love God and love all. This will determine *what* we will do as a church. **The vision** of Lumber City Church can change as God's will directs us on the mission. Our commitment to the way we will determine God's will for the direction He is taking us is for every believer to: **SEEK** intimacy with God, **SERVE** all with the gifts He's given us and **SEND** people into all the world with the good news of the Gospel. Our vision is driven by and rooted in our values of: **RELATIONSHIP, TRANSFORMATION & SACRIFICE**. We live out these values through the regular function of Sunday gatherings, Life Groups and by serving the church and community together with the gifts God has given us.

A member of Lumber City Church should agree with to the following:

- I believe that Jesus is The Savior. I believe in His miraculous virgin birth, His perfect sinless life, His sacrificial death, His glorious resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of The Father and His imminent return.
- I have made a public proclamation of my faith in Jesus by being baptized by full immersion in the Biblical manner.
- I am seeking personal intimacy with God through daily Bible reading and prayer.
- I agree with the mission, vision, values, structure and doctrine of this church and agree to voluntarily cooperate to teach and live in harmony with the 16 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God.
- I trust in the leaders of the church. I will be open to and submit to their leadership. (Heb. 13:17)
- I am committed to the vision of the church that every person is in a Life Group. I support this commitment by regular participation in a Life Group or Micro Group.
- I am committed to pouring what I can into others to 'make disciples'.
- I will commit to working together in love with others.
- I will pray for the church, its members and leaders.
- I will share my time, talent and resources. I will volunteer in a ministry of Lumber City Church.
- I am currently tithing or giving as I work through a financial plan with the goal of being able to tithe within the next year.
- I will protect the unity of the body by protecting the leadership of Lumber City Church. I will have my brother's back. I will work to forgive when I am offended. I will work to find solutions to conflicts. I will not engage in gossip or negative talk. I will seek humility. I will seek to come in last. I will seek holiness in all areas of my life.
- I believe God's plan for marriage is between one man and one woman. I believe that marriage is a covenant before God. I understand that the world's view of marriage is different than that and that living together without vows, or engaging in a lifestyle of sexuality outside of that covenant is not God's plan for me.
- I have completed the membership process of Lumber City Church via a Membership Orientation conversation and I have received a copy of the Lumber City Church Constitution and Bylaws.

I have read all of the above. I am ready to serve Lumber City Church by becoming a member.

Print Name

Sign Name

Date

Phone

Email (print)

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