

1. **Affiliation:** As a congregation, we are a participating church with the affiliation of churches called Anabaptist Disciples of Christ. We have accepted their Statement of Beliefs adopted on June 30, 2018, Bellville, OH, as well as their affiliation agreement, and were accepted into the affiliation by a formal letter from the ADC planning committee dated 11/18/2021.
2. **Membership:** Church membership requests will be granted to baptized believers with the acceptance of this Member’s Agreement and the approval of the brotherhood. Membership is a commitment to the brotherhood.

In addition to the above-mentioned ADC documents, Harvest Mennonite Church also has a printed Statement of Values that members of the congregation will endeavor to uphold and personally live out.

We will continue to avoid the use of public radio and television.

In this era when genders and gender roles continue to be diminished and even despised by the world, we want to glorify God by embracing the distinctive creation order of male and female. One practical area where this can be kept in focus is the distinction of genders in attire and appearance. We will therefore continue the practice of our sisters wearing dresses or skirts, and avoiding pants. The brothers will be intentional to appear masculine and the sisters feminine. For all members, we will seek to please our creator by applying the following scriptures when making clothing and lifestyle choices:

**1 Peter 3:3-4** *Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.*

**1 Timothy 2:9-10** *Also, the women are to dress themselves in modest clothing, with decency and good sense, not with elaborate hairstyles, gold, pearls, or expensive apparel, but with good works, as is proper for women who profess to worship God.*

3. **Administration:** We believe the Scriptures support congregational church administration. All changes to this Member’s Agreement shall be made upon a 75% affirmative vote by the brethren 18 years of age and older. Among members, if there are any grievances, differences, or lack of support of this the Member’s Agreement, the procedure in Matthew 18:15-18 shall be observed. If the issue comes to the brotherhood, those brethren 18 years of age and older shall discuss and conclude the matter. The offending member shall accept this as the voice of the brotherhood or forfeit their membership. As for any vote, a unified consensus should be sought. However, when this is not possible and a decision needs to be made, we recognize situations where brotherhood submission will need to be exercised. Known violation of scripture that is not confessed will result in excommunication.
4. **Brother’s Meetings:** The ministry will lead the congregation according to their scriptural responsibilities. The brotherhood will make all decisions affecting the group by the voice of the brethren 18 years of age and older. Regular brotherhood meetings will be scheduled by the ministry. The format of the meetings shall allow that any brother 18 years of age and older can bring items to the agenda. Items pertaining to concerns for another member may not be brought to the meeting unless Matthew 18:15- 18 has been duly followed.

We recognize that no Member’s Agreement can address every issue or detail of life. Therefore, practical applications and determinations regarding congregational life that arise from these meetings, will be recorded for future reference to aid in keeping the unity of the brotherhood and for clarity. We appreciate our Mennonite heritage and its emphasis of discipleship and brotherhood. Therefore, this Member’s Agreement is for our guidance and help in avoiding the evil influences of the world, to be accountable to each other in maintaining a consistent testimony, to be unified in the faith, to make application to scriptural principles, and to have a life and a brotherhood that glorifies God (John 17:15-26). All members will willingly accept and support this agreement and be an encouragement and example to the other members to do likewise.