

### **III. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is a publicly acknowledged affiliation with the responsibilities of belonging to a particular congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ. One joins Christ in baptism, and becomes a member of a local congregation according to the customs of that community. In contemporary Canada, it also includes the responsibilities of being a voting member of a legal entity formed under British Columbia Society Act and federal charitable status with CRA.

Anyone may apply for membership within The Place Community by written application to the Church Board. Criteria by which membership is vetted includes, but is not restricted to:

1. Whether the applicant declares personal belief in the tenets and practices of the Christian faith.
2. Has been baptized by any recognized Christian method.
3. Indicates personal desire to be a member and is under no duress of any kind.
4. Commits to uphold the customs, bylaws, responsibilities, and core faith beliefs of The Place.
5. Understands the requirement for members to be contributors of both time and finances toward the ministries and operations of The Place.

The Church Board will consider membership applications at the next regular board meeting after the application is received. The Church Board will usually require an interview with the applicant to assure membership criteria are being satisfied and to be available for further questions from the applicant.

This interview should be conducted by at least two members of the church, ideally male and female, and should be conducted in a public or semi-private space, such as a church hall, café, or outdoor space. Upon satisfactory interview, the applicant's membership will be accepted and added to the roll and their names announced at the next Sunday service.