Before completing your Membership Application, please take a moment to look over our Seven Membership Commitments, our Beliefs, and our Position on Tithing! After reading this document and filling out an application for Membership, someone will get back with regarding your next steps. We will go over parts of this document at our Membership Reception, where you will be asked to affirm these beliefs and commitments.

Our Seven Membership Commitments:

1. GIVE UP YOUR RIGHTS

 <u>Matthew 16:24-25</u> - Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must DENY THEMSELVES and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

2. PICK UP YOUR MINISTRY

• <u>1 Peter 4:10</u> - Each of you should USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED TO SERVE others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

3. SHOW UP TO CHURCH

<u>Hebrews 10:23-25</u> - Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, NOT GIVING UP MEETING TOGETHER, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

4. LIFT UP YOUR BROTHERS

• <u>Romans 12:10-11</u> - Be devoted to one another in love. HONOR ONE ANOTHER ABOVE YOURSELVES. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

5. BACK UP YOUR PASTOR

 <u>Hebrews 13:17</u> - HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR LEADERS AND SUBMIT TO THEIR AUTHORITY, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

6. OFFER UP YOUR TITHES

 <u>Malachi 3:10</u> - "BRING THE WHOLE TITHE INTO THE STOREHOUSE, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

7. LISTEN UP TO GOD

 Psalm 119:15-16 - I MEDITATE ON YOUR PRECEPTS and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

Ten Benefits from Tithing:

1. God is pleased by our obedience.

 <u>Malachi 3:10</u> - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

2. God is honored by our faithfulness.

• <u>Proverbs 3:9</u> - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.

3. It helps keep our priorities straight.

• <u>Matthew 6:21</u> - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

4. We become eligible for a blessing.

 <u>Malachi 3:10</u> - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

5. Guards us from selfishness.

 <u>Acts 20:35</u> - In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

6. God loves a cheerful giver.

 <u>2 Corinthians 9:6-7</u> - Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

7. We get to support the Great Commission.

 <u>Matthew 28:19-20</u> - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

8. Tithing ensures our needs will be met.

• <u>Matthew 6:33</u> - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

9. It helps meet the needs of God's people.

• <u>Hebrews 13:16</u> - And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

10. It reminds us that God is the true owner and giver of all that we have.

 <u>1 Tim 6:17-18</u> - Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

<u>What is the Difference Between</u> <u>a "Tithe" and an "Offering?"</u>

<u>TITHE</u> - Literally meaning "a tenth," tithe is giving God the FIRST 10% of what you have, knowing that HE is the owner of everything, and believing that he can do more with our 90% than what we can do on our own with 100%. We believe in Storehouse Tithing (below).

OFFERING - An offering is anything given ABOVE our tithe. Where the tithe is designated to the local church, an offering may be designated towards the church, a missionary or missions organization, a charity, or towards a specific activity or event through the local church. While giving our tithe is an act of obedience, giving an offering is an act of faith.

What is Storehouse Tithing?

From Malachi Chapter 3, "Storehouse" Tithing is bringing the first 10% of what we have to our local "storehouse." A "storehouse" is understood as the place where we are fed and a place where our needs are met. Giving to our local church ensures that they can continue to minister, feed, and meet the needs of others within the community.

Why Do We Believe in Storehouse Tithing?

- 1. It multiplies the effectiveness of our tithe.
- 2. It focuses the direction of our tithe.
- 3. It supports the local church.

The 16 Fundamental Truths:

<u>Click here</u> if you would like to learn more about the 16 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God.

- 1. The Bible is Inspired The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to mankind (*1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:21*).
- One True God The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (*Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22*).
- **3.** The Lord Jesus Christ is Fully God The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare: his sinless life, his miracles, his substitutionary work on the cross, his bodily resurrection from the dead, and his exaltation to the right hand of God (*Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31, 35; Revelation 1:8*).
- 4. The Fall of Mankind Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God *(Genesis 1:26-27, 2:17, 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).*
- 5. The Salvation of Mankind* Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God. Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit. The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (John 3:3; Luke 24:47; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11, 3:5-7).

- 6. The Ordinances of the Church The ordinance of BAPTISM by immersion is commanded by the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. THE LORD'S SUPPER, consisting of the elements --bread and the fruit of the vine-- is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ, a memorial of his suffering and death, and a prophecy of His second coming, and is enjoined on all believers (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47-48; 1 Corinthians 11:26).
- 7. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit* All believers are entitled to and should expect and seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry. This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (*Acts 8:12-17, 10:44-46, 11:14-16, 15:7-9*).
- 8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance. The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, but is different in purpose and use (*Acts 2:4; Corinthians 12:4-10, 28*).
- **9.** Sanctification Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (*Romans 12:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12*).
- **10. The Church and Its Mission** The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of The Great Commission (*Luke 19:10; Ephesians 4:12; Revelation 19:10, 22:9*).
- 11. The Ministry A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in: 1) evangelization of the world, 2) worship of God, 3) building a body of saints, and 4) meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion (*Ephesians 4:11,16*).
- **12. Divine Healing*** Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (*Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; James 5:14-16*).

- 13. The Blessed Hope* The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the church (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Titus 2:13).
- 14. The Millennial Reign of Christ The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on earth for one thousand years. This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel, and the establishment of universal peace (*Revelation 1:7, 19:11-14, 20:1-6*).
- **15. The Final Judgment** There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to the everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (*Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8*).
- **16. The New Heavens and the New Earth** "We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21,22).

*Our Four Core Doctrines are: 1) The Salvation of Mankind, 2) The Baptism in the Holy Spirit, 3) Divine Healing, and 4) The Blessed Hope. They are our "Core Doctrines" in that they are core distinctions of the Assemblies of God.