

Membership Commitment Statement

- I have been saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and boast in Him, not myself (Eph 2:4-10)
- I have been baptized in water at some point in my life, signifying my conversion and new life in God.
- I take responsibility as a disciple of Jesus to continue to nurture my own close, obedient, loving friendship with the Lord. (John 15:1-17)
- My life evidences a genuine experience of regeneration - the new birth (John 1:12-13) and a commitment to holiness, wholeness and our church family (Romans 6:4). Specifically, I affirm the sacredness of sexuality and marriage. In marriage, I will be completely faithful to my spouse (Heb. 13:4). I believe Scripture teaches that sex is a blessing to be rightly experienced only within heterosexual marriage. Therefore I will avoid sex outside of marriage, pornography, living as husband and wife when not married and/or homosexuality (Matt. 15:19, Rom. 13:13, 1 Cor. 6:9-20).
- I will follow the wisdom of the Lord by refraining from intoxication with alcohol and/or drugs (Rom. 13:13, Gal. 5:19-21). Should I stumble in any of these areas, I will get up again with the help of the Holy Spirit and my church family.
- I have read and am in agreement with Lafayette Vineyard's Statement of Core Values and What We Believe Statement.
- I will support my church by attending faithfully.
- I affirm that the tithe is God's standard of giving and I will work together with God to seek to fully fulfill that requirement.
- I will give of my time to be actively involved in some sort of ministry.
- If offended, I would not abandon this commitment but would speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:25) and work through conflict with gentleness, grace and forgiveness. (Eph. 4:1-3).
- I will be thankful (Col. 3:15) and live humbly and honorably in all my relationships. (Eph. 4:1-6)
- I will protect the unity of my church by acting in love toward other members, refusing to gossip, and by following leadership. (Rom 14:19, Eph 4:29)
- I will share in the responsibility of my church by praying for its growth and health and by inviting the unchurched to attend. (I Thess 1:1-2)
- I will be accountable to keep these commitments and welcome correction in my life and doctrine if need be. (Hebrews 13:17)
- If the Lord transitions me to a different church, I will leave well by keeping a pure heart toward the Vineyard and will inform a staff pastor of my move. Email is acceptable.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Spouse Signature: _____ Date: _____

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STATEMENT OF CORE VALUES

These values define and determine our actions.

**An Authentic people living in Obedience to God and
Honoring one another in a Community of Mercy.**

Authenticity

We desire to be authentic with each other and with God, recognizing that we are simply clay vessels being used by Him. We are not interested in putting on a show or performance but instead are determined to be real in our struggles while focused on seeking and experiencing the presence of God and His love that is demonstrated through Jesus Christ.

Obedience

We measure our hearts and activity by the standard of God's Word and historical orthodoxy. We are committed to obedience to God regardless of the cost. We are acutely aware that this life is but a breath and we seek to live with eternity in our hearts. We seek to obey both Logos and Rhema: The Word and the Spirit. "We will obey You God whatever man may say, and whatever comes our way."

Honor

We want to operate in a culture of honor recognizing that each life is sacred before God. We value Kingdom hierarchy while respecting each person's ability to hear God and be subject to the Holy Spirit's authority in their life. We recognize that we are called to hold each other accountable to the standards of the Word of God while leaving space for God to lead and work in the individual.

Community

The New Testament church was birthed in community, but this community's purpose was not simply having friends for friend's sake. This community was born through having a common purpose (the advancement of the Kingdom of God) and facing adversity (persecution) together.

We believe that true community is created when brothers and sisters labor together in bringing in the harvest, standing firm in the trenches, and fighting the battle against darkness on the earth. Through this comradery, victories can be celebrated and defeats commiserated. You will find community in this place as you put your hand to the plow and advance God's kingdom with us.

Mercy

God requires those who have been shown mercy to extend it to others. The impetus behind all of our activities is the mercy of God. We want to demonstrate God's love and His restorative power in the world. We desire to compassionately minister among the marginalized, the lost, the poor and the outcast of society.

What We Believe Statement

We believe the Bible is the only infallible and authoritative inspired Word of God.

(1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17)

We believe that there is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

(Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Ephesians 4:4-6)

We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His divine conception and virgin birth, in His perfectly sinless life, in His signs wonders and miracles, in the atoning power of His death on the cross through shedding of His blood, in His bodily resurrection from death, in His ascension into heaven, in His position at the right hand of the Father, and in His glorious personal return to earth in power.

(Matthew 1:23; John 1:1-4 & 1:29; Acts 1:11 & 2:22-24; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-4 & 4:15)

We believe that all men and women are lost and face God's judgment, that Jesus Christ is the one and only way of salvation, and that for lost to be saved, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ will result in regeneration by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Luke 24:46-47; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:10-11; Ephesians 1:7 & 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7)

We believe in the presence and ministry of the Holy Spirit, who dwells within Christians and enables them to live a godly life.

(John 3:5-8; Acts 1:8 & 4:31; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Galatians 5:16-18; Ephesians 6:12; Colossians 2:6-10)

We believe both the lost and saved will be experience resurrection; the saved will be resurrected into eternal life and the lost into damnation and eternal punishment.

(1 Corinthians 15:51-57; Revelation 20:11-15)

We believe that all true believers are members of the body of Christ, the church, and that the church is spiritually unified in the Lord Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 12:12, 27; Ephesians 1:22-23)

We believe that all followers of Jesus Christ carry a personal responsibility in the ministry of evangelism and discipleship.

(Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:9-15; 1 Peter 3:15)

We believe God’s plan for human sexuality is for it to be exclusively expressed within the context of marriage between husband and wife, that God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. This is the basis of our belief that marriage is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female.
(Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5-6; Mark 10:6-9; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9)

We believe that all believers are called to dedicate themselves to prayer, to serving our Lord, and to submitting to His authority over our lives.
(Matthew 9:35-38; 22:37-39 & 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:9-15 & 12:20-21; Galatians 6:10; Colossians 2:6-10; 1 Peter 3:15)

We believe that God calls and gifts leaders within the church as He chooses and that this is not limited by gender, age, ethnicity, economic status, or any other human distinction (1 Cor. 12:11; Gal. 3:28). The role of the church community is to discern God’s gifting and calling for leadership and also to discern the maturity and character required for leadership (1 Tim. 3:1-13). In the Jesus following community, leadership centers around serving the body of Christ in humility and self-sacrificial love (Matt. 20:25-28). In the Vineyard, every area of leadership is open to both men and women who have the desire for humble service to the community of believers and whose God-given gifting and calling for leadership has been recognized and affirmed by the church community.

We believe that all human life is sacred from the point of conception to its natural end; and that God calls us to have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellowmen.
(Psalm 139:13; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 22:37-39; Romans 12:20-21; Galatians 6:10)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Spouse Signature: _____ Date: _____

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