

Appendix 1- The Apostle's Creed...(to which members ascribe)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead¹. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic² Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Appendix 2- Helpful webpages...

- See the **CCH website** for
 - Sunday rota
 - Photos of our leadership
 - Doctrinal distinctives (TBC)
 - Whistleblowing policy (TBC)
 - GDPR policy
 - Safeguarding policy

<https://christchurchhuntingdon.co.uk>

- See the **AMiE website** for
 - More about our denomination
 - More about our bishops
 - More info about the synod
 - Canons & Constitution
 - Code of Conduct for Clergy

<https://www.anglicanmissioninengland.org>

Appendix 3- The Church Doctrinal Basis... (to which the leadership ascribes)

The Basis of Faith of the Charitable Incorporated Institution (CIO) shall be the fundamental truths of Christianity, as revealed in Holy Scripture, including:

- (a) The unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead.
- (b) The sovereignty of God in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgement.
- (c) The divine inspiration and infallibility of Holy Scripture as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- (d) The universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the fall, rendering man subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
- (e) The full deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God; his virgin birth and his real and sinless humanity; his death on the cross, his bodily resurrection and his present reign in heaven and earth.
- (f) Redemption from guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death once and for all time of our representative and substitute, Jesus Christ, the only mediator between God and man.
- (g) Justification as God's act of undeserved mercy, in which the sinner is pardoned all his or her sins, and accepted as righteous in God's sight, only because of the righteousness of Christ imputed to him or her, this justification being received by faith alone.
- (h) The need for the Holy Spirit to make the work of Christ effective to the individual sinner, granting him or her repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.
- (i) The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in all those thus regenerated, producing in them an increasing likeness to Christ in character and behaviour, and empowering them for their witness in the world.
- (j) The one holy universal Church, which is the Body of Christ, and to which all true believers belong.
- (k) The future personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge all men, executing God's just condemnation on the impenitent and receiving the redeemed to eternal glory.
- (l) God's creation of humanity as male and female, with equal status and complementary roles, and His design that marriage should be between a man and a woman and that the only proper place for sexual intercourse is within marriage between those born man and woman.

¹ We understand this to mean that Jesus was fully dead.

² The word "catholic" means universal, and can be distinguished from eg Roman Catholic.

AMiE

Joining Christ Church Huntingdon!



Thank you for coming to Christ Church Huntingdon on a Sunday, and for listening into our story, vision and values at a Welcome Dinner.

This document seeks to explain the next steps in your journey with us...

- For some you may be new to the faith, or not sure what you believe, and may want to meet up with someone to talk it through. This could perhaps be by joining a Christianity Explored course or chatting 1 to 1. We'd love to help you with this- just let me, or one of the other elders or leaders know what would serve you best (see website for our photos and the "contact us" page there). You are of course always welcome on a Sunday.
- For others already following Jesus, you don't feel ready to commit to the steps on this form, but you want to get more stuck in on a Sunday to get to know people, and grow in your faith. Again, you are most welcome and we look forward to getting to know you.
- Others will be ready to commit to partner with us in our vision as a church (summarised in this statement below) by becoming members of the church ...

"Our vision is to see the wonderful good news of Jesus' rescue



which transforms, unites and equips a community



prayerfully shared with all in the Huntingdon area"



We hope these pages explain what is involved in being a member of CCH. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have questions. We thank God for you!



Yours in Christ,

Charlie

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**CHRIST CHURCH
HUNTINGDON**



Charity Commission CIO No. 1179744

Joining the family...

God loves you and has sent his Son to reveal, rescue and rule! The moment that someone puts their trust in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord, God's Spirit dwells in them as a deposit guaranteeing their inheritance of eternal life. Through this redemption and adoption into God's family, they are not only joined into a wonderful new relationship with God as their heavenly Father, but they have a new worldwide family of brothers and sisters as well. This new relationship begins with repentance and faith, and is symbolised in baptism, an expectation for all believers. There are no subsequent steps that anyone needs to do to join God's family, the church, all believers are already a part of it! But the worldwide church finds its expression in the local church.



Commitment to CCH...



Commitment isn't a popular word in our individualistic and "come as you go" world! But in the light of Jesus' amazing commitment to us shown at the cross it is appropriate to be committed to him, his people, and to his "Great Commission" to go into the world and make disciples of all nations (see Matt 28:18-20). In the light of that, this document seeks to give a framework for you to commit to the vision of CCH, and for us as a leadership to commit to you. This should enable us to care for you better as an individual (or family), and helps us all to be clear on our different roles and responsibilities.

Please take time to read through what we ask of members of CCH here, and then when you are ready, contact one of the leadership (elders or staff) who would love to meet up with you (perhaps at church after a service one Sunday) in order a) to hear more about your Christian journey so far b) to chat through any questions you may have, including where you can serve, d) to pray for you and e) to sign the commitment form together if and when you are ready.

1) A commitment to Christ – “loving Jesus”



In belief... 1 John 5:13. A friendship with Christ starts with a simple prayer of faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord. The Apostles Creed (see Appendix 1) is a summary of basic beliefs in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that Christians have declared through the ages. We sometimes use it on a Sunday to express our faith together. We ask members to commit to the Bible as their supreme authority (see enclosed commitment form) and to ascribe to the Apostle's Creed.

In baptism... Acts 2:38. The New Testament speaks of baptism as the sign of belonging to Jesus. Baptism doesn't make you a Christian any more than wearing a wedding ring makes you married. But like a wedding ring, it is the sign of the new relationship that you have. If you are following Jesus but haven't yet been baptised (or haven't yet reaffirmed promises made at a baptism when you were an infant), please talk with Charlie about how we can support you in this.

In behaviour... Col 3:1-17 Those who are following Jesus are wonderfully being changed day by day to be more like him. By becoming members of the church, we commit to supporting one another in our godliness, seeking to put Jesus first in all we do in every area of our public and private lives.

2) A commitment to Church – “loving one another”

By coming... Heb 10:24,25 We understand that some have work shifts or health issues that make it difficult to attend some **Sundays**, and we know that on occasion time spent with family elsewhere or on holiday will mean that we can't all be at CCH every week. However, being a member of CCH means joyfully committing to coming as a priority in order to encourage one another and sing God's praises! We would love it if you can also join a weekly **lifegroup** (homegroup) and please also make the twice yearly **partnership meetings** (Sept/Oct and March/April) a priority. At these we welcome new members and elect/ratify church officers and look more closely at our vision, finance and outreach.



By praying... 2 Thess 1:11 Those who sign up to become members at CCH are committing to pray for the work of the church and for each other. We encourage you to come on zoom or in person to the 2nd Wednesday of the month prayer meeting where possible and to use the prayer diary which contains a list of the names of the members of our church (and their families).

By giving... 2 Cor 8:7 CCH is entirely dependent on charitable gifts to cover its costs (staff, hall hire, website, insurance etc). We encourage members prayerfully to give in a regular and tax efficient way where possible. More information is available from our treasurer via treasurer-cch@outlook.com

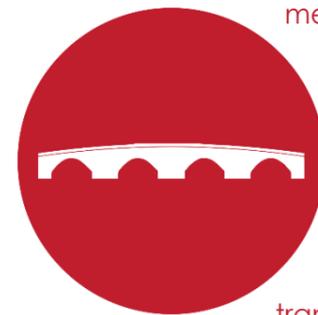
By encouraging... 1 Thess 5:11 Your presence on a Sunday is already a huge blessing to others around you. Why not take a moment to get to know others you meet (it's fine to ask if you've forgotten a name!) and perhaps you can think of a way of spurring someone on in their faith, by just asking how they are doing, by giving them a bible verse or by asking how you can pray for them.

By serving... 1 Peter 4:10 God has equipped each member of his body with gifts to build one another up. We'd love to hear how you would like to use the gifts you have to serve the body. On a termly basis we organise a rota of Sunday teams found at christchurchhuntingdon.co.uk/rota.

By respecting... Heb 13:17 Our leaders commit to serve you with humility by praying for you and teaching the Scriptures (see commitment form). Please don't hesitate to talk with one of them if you have a question about what we do or teach. There may be some areas where you take a different interpretation of the Bible on a secondary matter (e.g. baptism, the age to start receiving communion), but we ask you to respect the doctrinal distinctives outlined on our website. These include our practice of baptising infants and adults and our understanding that while we encourage all to be involved in Word ministry, those who lead the church as elders and preach should be qualified men (1 Tim 2:11-12).

3) A commitment to Huntingdon – “loving Huntingdon”

In word... 1 Peter 3:15 In an increasingly secular world, so few have heard about the wonderful message of Jesus' love for them, and we long to share the gospel with those in Huntingdon and the surrounding area. This is a team effort, but it begins with us getting to know our neighbours, colleagues and friends and praying for opportunities to speak of the hope that we have.



In deed... Matt 5:16 We long to be good neighbours who are known for our thoughtfulness and care for others, serving those around us and making Huntingdon a better place to live. The gospel lived out in lives of love and service transforms society, the neighbourhood, the planet! We encourage members to get stuck into the life of our communities as we seek to see the wider area won for the Lord Jesus!