



Riverview Church of God

Team Vision Manual 2010

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Reaching the World for Jesus... beginning in Lompoc

One Person at a Time





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Welcome to Riverview

As members of the Body of Christ and ministers of the gospel through word and deed, it is our desire at Riverview Church of God (RCOG) to bring the relevant uncompromised message of the Gospel to today's society in a relatable format through personal testimony and life application.

At Riverview Church of God We Believe:

Declaration of Faith

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism with Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the Atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous, and eternal punishment for the wicked.
15. Legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Hence, sexual activities, such as, but not limited to: adultery, fornication, incest, homosexuality, pedophilia and bestiality are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible and the Church. Further lascivious behavior, the creation and/or viewing of pornography, and efforts to alter one's gender, are incompatible with the biblical witness. Marriage has been established by God. This church recognizes marriage as exclusively the legal union of one man and one woman in which such union is a lifetime commitment.



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Commitment to Align with the Holy Scriptures of God's Word

The local administration as directed by the Sr Pastor has chosen not to envelope this document in endless words explaining the simplicity of what has already been outlined for us in the Holy Scriptures of the Christian Bible. Rather we will provide basic outlines as needed, and submit all issues in question to the spiritual authority of this local body for prayer and counsel as set forth in Acts 6:4. When called upon by the Sr Pastor the Pastor's Advisory Council, consisting of members of RCOG that have been appointed by the Sr Pastor and affirmed by the Ministering members, will provide additional insight, prayer support and advisement to the Sr Pastor to aid in the fulfillment of the vision God has placed in his heart for the local body at RCOG.

All of the issues in this and all position and ministry descriptions at RCOG are subject to change and revision to remain in accordance with God's ever-revealing Word. The Sr Pastor with the advisement of his Advisory Council may modify certain specifics on a per need basis to allow for individual discipleship WITHOUT compromising the scriptural standard of the Holy Bible.

The Biblical qualifications for leadership are based on a knowledge and practice of God's Holy standard which is revealed in our lifestyle. We are committed to remain accountable to God's Word and reveal the knowledge of what we learn through personal experience practical life application.

Any or all statements, procedures, policies in this or any other document regarding church administration or structure remain in full submission to the Word of God first and foremost.

Every minister, council member, employee, Ministering Member or volunteer shall affirm their agreement with the Statement of Faith and shall conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent therewith, the Word of God being the supreme-primary and final standard.

We must remain changeable and constantly growing into the image of Christ for our good and the good of those around us. The leadership team at RCOG is comprised of people just like you, who desire to provide excellence in service to our Lord Jesus Christ by serving those around us.

The RCOG Team Vision is the leadership team of this body of believers who are committed to an *ever-changing* life in order to remain in accordance with God's *ever-revealing* Word. People are watching you for an example of Christ likeness, don't disappoint them, so show them the Jesus that gave His *life* for them so He might give His *love* to them.

Matt 9:37-38 (NLT) He said to his disciples, ***"The harvest is so great, but the workers are so few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send out more workers for his fields."*** We look forward to serving with you as we see your families, our city, this county, this state, this country and this world won to Christ!

For more information about the Church of God, Cleveland, TN., you may check out the organization's main website at www.churchofgod.org.



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A Christ-Centered Person is a Whole-Person,
A Completed Worshiper!

Living HIS Purpose “in” our life –

Worship God

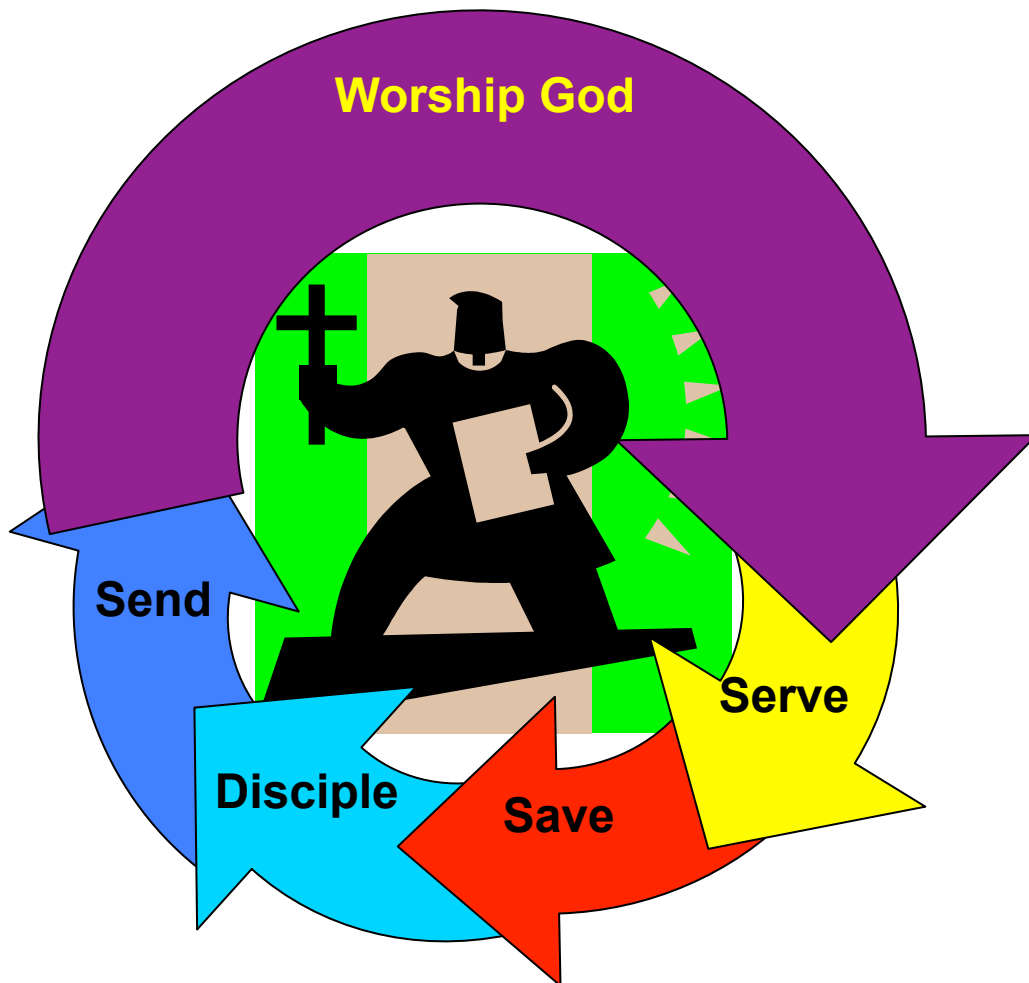
Completing HIS Mission “to” the world –

Disciple People

Fulfilling HIS Vision “for” eternity –

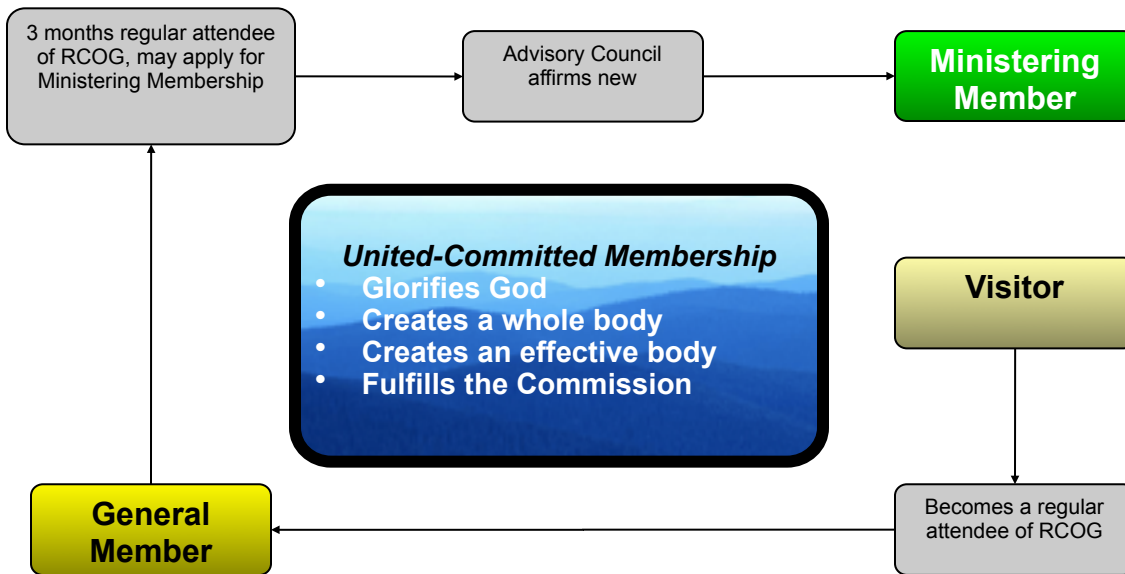
Completed People Presenting
Completed Worship!

For more information on “Completed Worship” request the Completed Worship handout





Riverview Church of God Membership Structure



MEMBERSHIP by Nehemiah

Membership comes in the form of covenant accountability.

Eph. 5:21 And further, you will submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

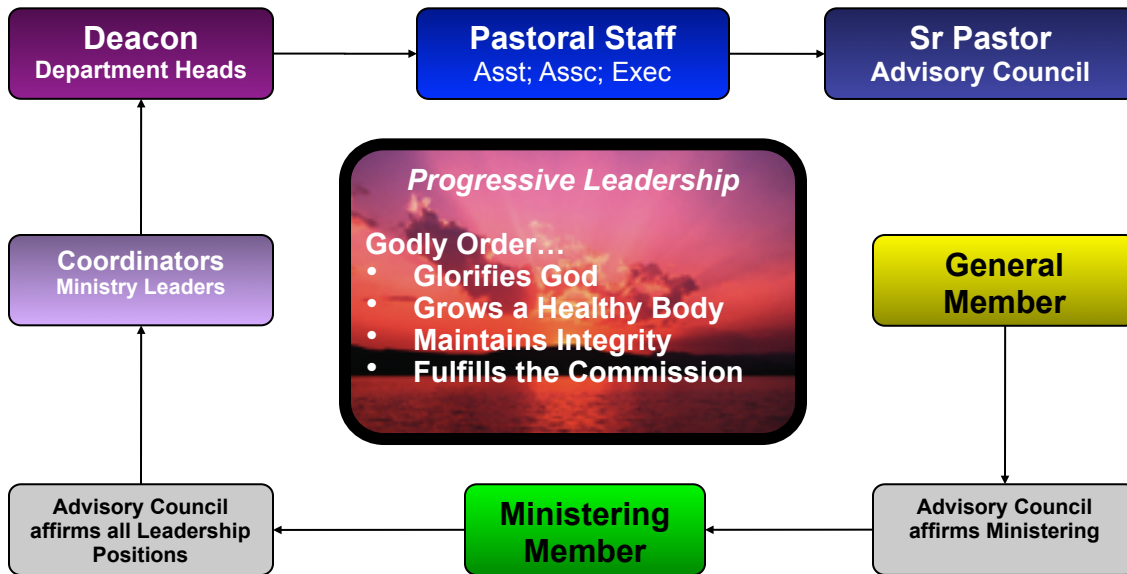
Neh 9:38-10:29-39 Tells us how the leaders of Israel took a vow and signed a corporate covenant between each other to never allow the nation to fall into such ungodliness and to honor God always. Then goes on to say that by this example set by the leaders the people were moved to create and sign the same such vow between each other.

These people were so serious about their commitment to God to live a godly life in accordance with God's commandment they made covenants that were signed and sealed and authorized the release of a curse upon themselves if they failed to hold each other to the covenant.

This is an incredible example of how God honors those who will step out and make a covenant for His glory that requires accountability to each other.



Team Vision Leadership Structure



LEADERSHIP by Rev. Don Krider

“Leadership is not only necessary, but it is demanded by the Lord! The Body must not only have Apostles, but Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers; it must have elders, fathers of the faith, those that can in truth and love counsel and give guidance to others. Leaders must walk in the spirit, imparting knowledge, not walking without sight but walking with the vision that the Lord imparts. We must know and acknowledge that we are called; that we have a vision and desire the knowledge of God so that others may walk in a way that is right with Him. We must also count the cost. Leaders bear the brunt of misunderstanding, foolishness, and other things that would destroy the Body. We must be able to stand against the wiles of the devil for the sheep many times. We must be willing to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. Much responsibility, much hard work, prayer, fasting and self denial is required of a leader even at what seems to be the smallest of jobs. The leaders are to attain spiritual fatherhood in order that others may be able to draw from their experience and knowledge.”

IT IS A BIG AND IMPOSSIBLE TASK FOR MAN, BUT WITH GOD "ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE."



Ministering Membership Program

1. A General Member is:

- a) Any individual who has faithfully attended RCOG for a minimum of three months and believes RCOG is their home church family. The individual may not have received Jesus Christ as their Saviour at this point. The intent is to build relationship with the individual so the Holy Spirit through our example will draw them to the cross of Christ.
- b) Able to serve the body in basic fundamental areas of service that do not require leadership responsibility, i.e., lawncare, maintenance, janitorial, etc., as approved by the Sr Pastor; and must be under the authority of an approved Ministering Member. They will not be able to serve in "interactive" ministries.

2. An applicant for Ministering Membership must:

- a) Have received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour; be baptized in water in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and make a public confession of their faith before the congregation during a designated service.
- b) Be a General Member in good standing for a minimum of three months and decide to make a commitment to co-labor with and support the local body of RCOG spiritually, financially, mentally, emotionally, and physically. *The three-month time period may be altered based on individual circumstances as decided by the Pastor's Advisory Council.*
- c) Submit to the Word of God as being the final standard of ultimate authority for all areas of life, as understood by the spiritual authorities of RCOG.
- d) Sign a "Covenant Agreement-Consent to Verify Reference and Background Checks" form to be submitted to the Pastor's Advisory Council for approval. *If the applicant declines this consent it could hinder their acceptance as a Ministering Member, and will most likely not allow them to work with our children or elderly or other positions of interactive ministry.*

3. The Ministering Member agrees to:

- c) Live a life above reproach, aligned with the Holy Scriptures, remain accountable to Pastoral Staff and leadership team.
- d) Be disciplined in accordance with God's Word and grow in their relationship with God through the study of and obedience to God's Word, in prayer, in service to the house of God, and in fellowship with the body.
- e) Make a one-year commitment to the local body of RCOG and remain in an active ministry role fulfilling the requirements of each position held.
- f) Attend at least one RCOG teaching/preaching service during the week conducted by a member of the Pastoral Staff or a minister/teacher approved by the Sr Pastor for personal ministry. This insures the unity of the leaders with the vision of the local church.
- g) Promote unity within the body that we might glorify God by representing Jesus Christ in holiness, fulfill the Great Commission for the sake of our King and edify His body.
- h) Be a faithful supporter in spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical obligations as well as regular financial offerings in accordance to scripture, for the furtherance of His work through actively supporting the various outreaches, educational programs, benevolence, missions, facility maintenance, staffing and other obligations of RCOG. *A tithe is the first 10% of your income (increase) and is considered the initial financial gesture of gratefulness demonstrated to God for His bountiful blessings. The tithe teaches you to Fear the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom. Strive to make the tithe only the first of your giving not the last or least of your giving.*
- i) Attend the monthly Ministering Member Meetings, which keeps the leadership unified. At this meeting the monthly calendars are reviewed, upcoming events are strategized, issues are dealt with, annual financial reports are given and training is received. The training is not ministry specific; you are expected to receive training from your respective ministry supervisor that would be ministry specific. The training received at the Ministering Member Meetings is to disciple you into a more mature Christian. This will make you a more complete person and in turn will make you a better minister/leader.



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4. The Ministering Member is:

- a) Invited to attend special meetings requiring the attendance of the Membership that deal with the future of RCOG of which they need to be informed. Members under sixteen years of age will not be invited to special sessions unless requested by the Pastoral Staff, depending on the content and age appropriateness of the meeting. To be invited to attend or have a voice in a special session, you must be in good standing, which means you have complied with all of the stipulations within the current Team Vision Manual.
Note: Exceptions are based on the individual, their reputation and the circumstances surrounding their absence, lack of giving, and/or lack of service.
- b) Given precedence prior to the General Membership or General Public if benevolence aid is necessary and the church has the resources available. *Note: This is not to be considered a bank account that can be withdrawn from based on personal deposits, but is aligning with the scripture to care for the household of faith. Gal 6:10*
- c) Given special rates and privileges regarding facility usage for weddings, funerals, memorial services and other limited functions.
Note: This is God's House, all activities must be approved by the Pastor's Advisory Council and not all requests will be granted.

5. To remain a current Ministering Member you agree to:

- a) Continue to align your life with God's Word, by taking up your cross and following Him;
- b) Remain humble in your attitude, and
- c) Continue to comply with the current Team Vision Manual

6. **Standard of Dress:** A dress code is provided only as a guideline and may be altered at anytime by the administration of RCOG, as directed by the Sr Pastor, to alleviate any offense when referring to a standard for modesty that should be exercised by members of the Body of Christ. Always be neat, clean and presentable at all times. Your personal grooming and dress should be taken as seriously as the position you hold. We are representatives of the King of Kings and are to direct all glory and attention to Him, not to our style of dress or lack of modesty. It should always be more important to create an environment for worship than making a fashion or image statement. It is our job to promote an attitude of reverence during each service and special function. Our prayer is that you will adopt these principles for modesty into your everyday life. At home, at work or at church you are the leaders of this community and people are watching you for an example of Christ-likeness.

- a) **GROOMING:** Maintain a well-groomed appearance. Personal hygiene is not optional. We must be showered, shaven, hair brushed, clean teeth and clean clothes. Your appearance will affect how people respond to your direction.
- b) **GENERAL DRESS:** As Christians, immodest, tight fitting or form fitted clothes are to be avoided at all times; Shorts are not allowed when on a ministry team during Main or Mid-Week Services. When on a ministry team shorts may be worn as deemed appropriate for various outreach events, and must be kept at a modest length of no more than 3 inches above the knee and all precautions should be taken to preserve modesty.
- c) **MAIN SERVICES:** If you are on a ministry team the minimum standard for a Sunday Service or Conference is business casual (i.e. Polo style shirts, Dockers, or jeans, etc. Clothing must be in excellent condition, no holes or worn areas). If a woman desires to wear a dress or skirt it should be kept within the moderate guidelines of no more than two inches above the knee and a modest neckline should also be observed.
- d) **MID-WEEK AND OUTREACH SERVICES:** If you are on a ministry team the minimum standard for Mid-Week Services, Youth Services, concerts, outreaches and other informal functions a more casual apparel may be worn (i.e. Christian T-shirts, or jeans, etc. Clothing must be in good condition, no holes or excessively worn areas).
- e) **HATS:** Men are asked to not wear hats inside the facility as an act of reverence for God's house of worship.



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- f) **DRINKS/FOOD:** With the exception of bottled water, please do not bring drinks and food into the sanctuary. If bottled water is necessary on the platform, media or audio areas, the lids must be kept on and the containers placed away from the electronic equipment.
- g) **GUM:** Please refrain from using gum on campus and use breath mints instead. This will help keep our facility clean and gum free.

7. **Notification**

- a) **Absentee Notification:** If for any reason you are unable to fulfill your commitment for a designated service, you are required to notify your respective Ministry Leader at least 48-hours in advance so adjustments can be made due to your absence. You are a VITAL part of this ministry and your absence leaves a large void within our ministry team.
 - b) **Resignation of Position:** If for any reason you believe the Lord has called you to step down from a ministry position it must be put in writing in a letter addressed to your respective ministry leader. You are required to give your respective Ministry Leader a minimum of 4-weeks notice and offer your assistance in this transition. This will allow ample time to find a replacement and also give you the opportunity to help train them. This gesture will reflect your obedience to God's Word by displaying your respect for your Ministry Leader, and providing a Christ-like example to those who are watching your life.
8. **DISCIPLINE:** Although it is not anticipated, if a Ministering Member consistently displays a lack of faithfulness in any of the above stated areas after receiving counsel and support from leadership to help them improve they will be placed on a "Non-Active Status" until the Pastor's Advisory Council can review the issues and make a prayerful decision as to what action to take.
9. **DISMISSAL:** In the rare case it is discovered through observation and investigation that a Ministering Member is willfully bringing reproach to the name of Christ and/or disunity to the body of Christ and is not receiving counsel from his/her supervisor, and or the Pastor's Advisory Council, the Ministering Member may be dismissed without notice. All avenues of reconciliation will be exercised in accordance with scripture to attempt a restoration within the body prior to and after this type of decision is made.



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RIVERVIEW CHURCH OF GOD COMMUNITY SERVICES

Statement of Accountability and one year Covenant Agreement Accept Decline

I have read and agree to abide by the above stated conditions. I agree to seek God at all times regarding my personal growth and discipleship for the fulfillment of the Father's vision to reconcile the world to Himself. I agree to be held accountable to the Bible as God's glorious standard and requirement for all of humankind. As a Ministering Member, I will comply with the standard of living and leadership that is required of me at Riverview Church of God (RCOG), which is in alignment with God's Word as a Christian.

Consent to Verify References and perform Background Check Accept Decline

I understand that RCOG is involved in varied local church and community activities, which work with people of all age groups including, but not limited to, the elderly and children. Ministering Member Applicants agree to allow the administration of RCOG to verify reference and background information. It is my first and foremost responsibility to insure the reputation of the Gospel is protected and all those who come under the covering and ministry of the local body of RCOG are provided the confidence that they are being served by, serving with and serving under people of Godly integrity, of good character, upright, and honest.

Depending on the ministry to which I am applying, I understand that my application for Ministering Membership could be conditional upon my successfully passing a reference and background check if deemed necessary to do such a screening. I understand that if RCOG conducts such a screening it will be done within the confines of all applicable state and federal laws, which may include, but not be limited to: Criminal History, Certification and Licensing, and Reference Checks.

I hereby release any individual, entity, RCOG and its Staff (both volunteer and compensated) from all claims or liabilities that might arise from the inquiry into or disclosure of such information, including claims under any federal, state, or local civil rights law and any claims for defamation or invasion of privacy.

In addition, I authorize all persons, companies and references who may have information relevant to this research, to disclose such information to RCOG, or its agents, and I hereby release all persons from liability on account of true and accurate disclosure. I hereby further authorize that a photocopy of this authorization be considered as valid as the original.

We are saddened that the rising legal attack on the church by believers and non-believers alike regarding various types of allegations about volunteers are now requiring us to protect the local body of Christ and its faithful members through means such as background checks and reference verifications. This type of procedure is becoming nationally accepted as a common standard for churches and is quickly becoming a requirement of the few companies that still provide adequate insurance to non-profit organizations. We apologize for this inconvenience, but believe that you feel the same way and will support our efforts to continue providing a safe and secure environment for those God has entrusted to our care.

Signature of Applicant _____
Date

Printed Name (First, Middle, Last, Maiden) _____
Driver's License Number, State

Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth: Mo/Dy/Yr _____
Contact Phone Number

Address (Street, City, State, Zip)

Position Applying for : (I.e., Clean Team, Usher Team, Children's Ministry, etc.)

Referring Leadership Signature:(I.e., Ministry Coordinator, Deacon, Pastor, etc.) **Approved – Denied**
Pastor's Advisory Council

Pastor's Advisory Council Signature: _____ Date: _____

Lead Pastor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____