

Mission Northeast

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AFFILIATION PROCEDURES

Mission Northeast is a voluntary association of Conservative Baptist churches in covenant relationship to advance the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 18-20) throughout the world and to serve one another so that the church is “healthy and growing and full of love” (Ephesians 4 16, NLT).

Autonomous churches, without regard to other affiliations, may affiliate with Mission Northeast by making application to the Executive Board according to the procedures in the Operation and Policy Manual if they meet the following criteria:

Membership Requirements:

- The church shall have by vote declared their agreement with the convictions expressed in our Purpose (Article II) and Declaration of Faith (Article III), and who agree to abide by these Bylaws.
- The doctrinal statement of the church shall be consistent, though not necessarily identical, with the doctrinal statement of Mission Northeast.
- The congregation shall have the final authority in legal and constitutional matters.
- The church shall practice believer’s baptism by immersion as a requirement for membership.
- The church’s practice is to call and ordain only biblically qualified men as elder/pastors.

Additional Expectations:

- It is expected that member churches and individuals will participate relationally and financially in the Association as expressed in the Covenant of Churches contained in the Operation and Policy Manual.
 - Mission Northeast derives its support primarily from affiliated churches and individuals. Therefore, each church and each individual is expected to contribute regularly.
 - Pastors and churches are expected to participate in their Area Fellowship. Area or Ethnic Fellowships have been established for the clustering of churches for mutual prayer, encouragement, study, vision casting, and accountability. These Fellowships also seek to hold (by themselves or in cooperation with other fellowships) meetings, retreats and/or seminars that would be of mutual benefit and further the work of God’s Kingdom.

Steps to Affiliation:

1. Review the Purpose and Declaration of Faith of Mission Northeast to determine your agreement with these convictions. Review our Bylaws to determine your ability to abide by them.
2. Schedule a meeting for the members of your church to declare their agreement with the convictions expressed in the Purpose and Declaration of Faith of Mission Northeast, and agree to abide by the Bylaws of Mission Northeast, and as a result of prayerful consideration and congregational vote apply for affiliation. Also, give consideration to supporting Mission Northeast through a regular financial commitment.
3. Download and complete the application for affiliation from our website www.MissionNortheast.org. An application is also included below. Send the completed application and a copy of your church bylaws and doctrinal statement to Mission Northeast. Although the application page with signature must be sent through though postal mail, all other documents should be sent as an email attachment if possible.
4. A church or individual wishing to affiliate with Mission Northeast shall make application to the Executive Board in keeping with the guidelines in our bylaws. The Executive Board shall send the application to the appropriate Area Fellowship for review. This review shall include examination of the church’s application, bylaws and other documentation as needed. Other appropriate steps will be taken to determine the church’s (or individual’s) commitment to our values, mission, vision, and covenant of churches. The Area Fellowship shall by vote make recommendation to the Executive Board regarding the approval of the application.

The Purpose of Mission Northeast

In obedience to God and His Word, the Conservative Baptist movement has demonstrated an historic commitment to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. In keeping with our history we recognize that God has called us to fulfill the following Values, Mission, and Vision.

We value and celebrate:

- Courageous leaders who passionately seek to equip their church to accomplish Christ's mission.
- Healthy local churches that work to make disciples of Jesus Christ and launch new churches.
- Partnership and accountability among churches and leaders who are networked together to accomplish Christ's mission of making disciples.
- Multiplication of leaders and churches so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ radically impacts the world.

Our Mission:

To serve the local church; assisting them to accomplish their God-given mission to make disciples of all nations.

Our Vision:

We envision a network of vibrant churches empowered by God and mobilized by passionate spiritual leaders, living out the gospel by serving their communities and making disciples of Jesus Christ to the glory of God.

The Covenant of Member Churches

This corporation is organized as an association of Conservative Baptist churches in covenant relationship. These churches have committed themselves to promote the cause of Christ throughout the world in fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), and to live out the Great Commandment together demonstrating the reality of their life in Christ (Matthew 22:37-40; John 13:34-35). The precedent of churches associating in this way is found in early church practice (Acts 15; 2 Corinthians 8:18-24; Galatians 1:2, 22; Colossians 4:13-18). It is also warranted by Christ's prayer for visible unity (John 17:20-23); by the church's identification (locally and universally) as the Temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:20-22); and Christian prudence and wisdom.

Covenant of Member Churches

In partnership for the gospel of Christ, to the glory of God the Father, and by the power of the Spirit, as a member church of Mission Northeast, we covenant to:

1. Faithfully uphold our core beliefs, values, and polity as stated in MNE's Statement of Faith and Bylaws.
2. Celebrate our diversity and the uniqueness of each local church ministry; graciously treating each other with love, encouraging, protecting, and supporting one another.
3. Prioritize our church's mission to be a Great Commission community energized with Great Commandment passion, seeking to reach people for Christ, impact our communities, and multiply churches.
4. Actively participate in our association by sharing our strengths, energy, and resources in ministry to each other, bringing greater health to our churches.
5. Strengthen and support our pastors and leaders by enabling their active participation in cluster fellowships, leadership development, and by using their gifts and talents to serve the greater body of Christ.
6. Generously support our association through regular financial contributions and by praying for our Regional Staff and our CB churches in our area.
7. Humbly receive the ministry of others as they seek to strengthen us and to give them permission to hold us accountable to this covenant if they perceive within us aloofness, independence, or competitiveness.

The Declaration of Faith for Mission Northeast

THE WORD OF GOD: We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, complete as the revelation of God's will for salvation, and the supreme and final authority in all matters to which they speak.

THE TRINITY: We believe in one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things, eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that these are equal in every divine perfection and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

GOD THE FATHER: We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of humanity, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

JESUS CHRIST: We believe that Jesus Christ is God's eternal Son, and has precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. We believe further that He is not only true God, but also true human, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. We also believe in His sinless life, His substitutionary atonement, His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, His priestly intercession on behalf of His people, and His personal, visible return from heaven.

HOLY SPIRIT: We believe in the Holy Spirit, His personality, and His work in regeneration, sanctification, and preservation. His ministry is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and implement Christ's work of redeeming the lost and empowering the believer for godly living and service.

HUMANITY: We believe God created humanity, male and female, in the image of God and free from sin. We further believe all people are sinners by nature and choice and are therefore spiritually dead. We also believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

SALVATION: We believe in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We further believe that this salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, and was purchased by Christ on the cross, and is received through faith, apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We further believe salvation results in righteous living, good works, and proper social concern.

THE CHURCH: We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the head. We believe that the true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies whose members have been immersed upon a credible confession of faith and have associated themselves for worship, for instruction, for evangelism, and for service. We believe the ordinances of the local church are believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. We also believe in the interdependence of local churches and the mutual submission of believers to each other in love.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE: We believe that each local church is self-governing in function, and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority. We further believe that every human being is directly responsible to God in matters of faith and life, and that each should be free to worship God according to the dictates of his or her conscience.

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT: We believe that the supreme task of all believers is to glorify God in their lives; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions; and that they should seek to realize for themselves the full stature of maturity in Christ.

LAST THINGS: We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and the lost, the eternal existence of both in either heaven or hell, in divine judgments, rewards, and punishments.



CHURCH APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

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Email: Connect@MissionNortheast.org

Web: www.missionnortheast.org

NAME OF CHURCH:		DATE OF APPLICATION:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE:	FAX:	E-MAIL:	
WEBSITE:			
PASTOR:		PHONE:	
ADDITIONAL CONTACT:		POSITION:	
ADDRESS:		PHONE:	
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
E-MAIL:			

The members of the above named church declare agreement with the convictions expressed in the Purpose and Declaration of Faith in the Bylaws of Mission Northeast, and agree to abide by the Bylaws of Mission Northeast, and as a result of prayerful consideration and congregational vote hereby apply for affiliation.

DATE OF CONGREGATIONAL VOTE:	SIGNATURE:
	POSITION:

Application Procedure:

A church or individual wishing to affiliate with Mission Northeast shall make application to the Executive Board in keeping with the guidelines in our bylaws. The Executive Board shall send the application to the appropriate Area Fellowship for review. This review shall include examination of the church's application, bylaws and other documentation as needed. Other appropriate steps will be taken to determine the church's (or individual's) commitment to our values, mission, vision, and covenant of churches. The Area Fellowship shall by vote make recommendation to the Executive Board regarding the approval of the application.

- Send a copy of this application, your Church Bylaws, and Doctrinal Statement to Mission Northeast via email as an attachment to the email address above.***
- Mail this signature page via the post office to the PO Box above.***