

PASTOR/MINISTER Application Form

Evangelical Association of Reformed & Congregational Christian Churches

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Be it known that I,

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Name of your church/ministry _____

Address of your church/ministry _____

desire to apply for recognition of ministerial standing in the Evangelical Association of Reformed & Congregational Christian Churches. I affirm the core convictions and doctrinal truths contained in the following statements without reservation:

Apostle's Creed (Please initial here _____)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And 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, dead, and buried; He descended to the dead; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Nicene Creed (Please initial here _____)

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;

And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead;

Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy universal and apostolic church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Evangelical Association Statement of Faith (Please initial here _____)

We affirm the following:

1. The Trinitarian name of God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. God has revealed Himself fully and decisively as attested in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired and authoritative Word of God. The Scriptures are the guide of faith and life.
3. There is only one way to salvation: through Jesus Christ.
4. The sanctity of human life at every stage based on our creation in the image of God and our election by God for service in His Kingdom.
5. The Biblical guidelines for human sexuality: marriage as the union of one man and one woman, chastity outside of marriage, lifelong fidelity and holiness in marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.
6. The mission of the Church is to spread the good news of the Gospel of salvation in every word and deed. We are sent by Christ into all the world to proclaim the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship and submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

OPTIONAL - Additional Statements of Faith, Creeds, Confessions, Affirmations, etc. that are important to you and that you wish to have on the record as part of your application may be attached to this document.

Furthermore, I am in agreement with the purpose and organizational structure of the Evangelical Association as expressed in the following statements:

Evangelical Association Purpose Statement (Please initial here_____)

The Evangelical Association is organized and operates exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, and to carry out the purposes of uniting churches of the Evangelical, Reformed, Congregational and Christian heritage, as well as supporting the ministry of the local church, the clergy, and the mission of its members. We are a voluntary association of churches, ministers and believers networking together to further the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Evangelical Association Statement of Organizational Structure (Please initial here_____)

We are an association of local churches, each of which governs itself according to the Bible. We transcend denominational/association lines as ecumenically we network together to strengthen the Church and each other. We are united as the family of God with Christ as our Lord and Savior. We hold fast to the belief that Jesus Christ is the head of His Body, the Church, and of each local church. We hold fast to the belief that Christ exercises His authority in each local church by the Holy Spirit and through the Holy Scriptures. We hold fast to the belief that each local church is in itself a complete church, and is therefore autonomous and possesses all the rights and responsibilities of the Church as bestowed upon it by the Holy Spirit and set forth in God's Word.

And as a minister, by God's grace I will abide by the Evangelical Association Code of Ethics for Clergy (see below) as well as the biblical standards of a minister found in I Timothy 3-5 and throughout the Bible and will connect with other clergy in my area for the purpose of fellowship, accountability and encouragement.

Evangelical Association Code of Ethics for Clergy (please initial here_____)

In Relationship to God

- I will always devote time to seeking the will of God through reading the Scriptures and prayer.
- I will endeavor to keep myself physically and emotionally fit.
- I will seek in all ways to be Christlike in my attitude and conduct.
- I will seek mutual accountability and spiritual friendship with fellow Christians for personal encouragement and nurture in order to ensure faithfulness to my calling as a steadfast follower and competent servant of my Lord Jesus Christ.

In Relationship to My Family

- I will consider each member of my immediate family as precious gifts from God, and will carefully, lovingly and responsibly meet their needs as a sacred obligation before Him.
- I will be faithful and loyal to my family members, loving them as Jesus Christ loves His Church.
- I will seek to be responsible in my personal finances.

In Relationship to the Church

- I will remember that I am called to lead, but also to serve.
- I will honor all confidences shared with me unless compelled by law to do otherwise.
- I will be diligent in my duties as a pastor, with God as my judge and my Shepherd.
- I will be Biblical in my preaching, presenting the whole counsel of God, speaking the truth in love.
- I will strive to introduce people to Christ, and to build His Church.
- I will consider my call to the church a sacred responsibility and defend the church when it is attacked.
- I will seek the unity of the church and resist any attempts to divide.
- I will (if authorized to do so) administer the sacraments and rites of the church with integrity.

In Relationship to Other Ministers

- I will be a brother/sister in Christ to my fellow ministers.
- I will not seek to build my church at the expense of another church, nor my ego at the expense of another minister.
- I will not speak uncharitably of my predecessor, my successor or my colleagues.
- When departing from a church/ministry, I will not interfere with nor intrude upon the ministry of my successor and will refrain from pastoral contacts with former parishioners except with the knowledge of and permission from the present pastor.

In Relationship to the Community

- I will seek to build a positive relationship with the community without compromising my ministry to the church.

Signature_____

Date_____

Other items which need to be provided along with this application:

Ordained Ministers should enclose...

- A copy of your ordination certificate or other proof of ordination.
- A description of the requirements you had to fulfill in order to be ordained by the church/denomination/association/ministry that ordained you.
- The names and addresses (including e-mail if available) of three personal references who will be provided with forms to complete and submit to the Evangelical Association. These individuals must be members of a Christian church or fellowship who have witnessed your fitness and suitability to serve in a ministerial capacity (note: one of the references must come from someone in leadership at the church or ministry where you are currently serving or are a member).

Licensed Ministers should enclose...

- A letter of request for recognition of your license from the local church that has granted the license. This letter should testify to your faith, knowledge and maturity. It should also indicate if you are participating in any training or study for ministry and clearly state the parameters of the ministry for which you have been licensed and the expiration date of the license (if applicable).

All applicants should include annual dues with this application or go to our website to pay by credit/debit card (please make checks payable to “Evangelical Association”)

_____ Pastor/Minister (Ordained) \$60
_____ Pastor/Minister (Licensed) \$60
_____ Additional support for General Fund
_____ Additional support for National Minister Fund

_____ Check here if you **DO NOT** want to be listed in any directory or on the web site of the EARCCC

Once this application and all required documents have been received, you will be contacted by an area representative of the EARCCC to complete the recognition process.

Thanks so much for your interest in the Evangelical Association. If you have questions, please contact:

Rev. Jim Barnes, National Minister at 877-424-1472 or natmin@evangelicalassociation.org

Please return application to:

**Evangelical Association
9051 Watson Road #241
St. Louis, MO 63126**