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► *The History of Summit Crossing*

ONE OF THE MOST AWESOME PARTS ON THE TRIP OF BEING ON MISSION WITH GOD IS REMEMBERING HIS PROVISION. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT WANT TO BE GUILTY OF GETTING CAUGHT UP IN THE PAST, WE FEEL IT VERY APPROPRIATE TO REJOICE IN GOD'S DELIVERANCE. YOU WILL HEAR IT SAID OFTEN: THIS BODY DESIRES TO BE A PART OF A MOVEMENT SO BIG, IT CAN ONLY BE EXPLAINED BY GOD. AS A BODY, PART OF REALIZING WHO WE ARE IS IN THE REMEMBRANCE OF WHERE WE HAVE COME. WE NEVER WANT TO FORGET HOW INCREDIBLE EACH STEP OF THIS JOURNEY IS AS GOD CONTINUES TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO US IN INCREDIBLE WAYS.

BEGINNINGS

February 2001:

The Seed is Planted when two of our charter members journey to Birmingham for a church growth conference in Birmingham. Through prayer, bible study, corporate worship, and fellowship, the seed of church planting is sown.

November 2002:

The Seed is Watered when these two members and their families feel the call of God to plant a church in the Madison area. They begin to pray together and approach two other families to seek the sincerity of this call.

January 2003:

The Seed is Watered when a small core group of four families begins to meet in homes on a weekly basis to pray about God's vision for this new body of believers. Over the next few months, a church prospectus is developed along with a church mission statement. The small core groups begin to grow and officially become Summit Crossing Community Church in August.



2003 MARKERS

August
First official worship service with 13 attenders in the home of Mark and Staci Sellers.

October
First service in the BCM Building on the campus of UAH. Attendance averages between 30-70.

October
Initial small group meetings begin for both adults and children with 7 attenders.

November
College small groups begin meeting in homes and on campus.

November
First Discover Membership class meets with 16 attenders.

2004 MARKERS

January
Apex Student Ministry launches with 9 students.

April
First baptism at SC3.

August
SC3 began worship services in the gymnasium of Woodland Hill Baptist Church. Average attendance between 80-100.

August
First GroupLink with the formation of six new community groups.

November
First worship service in Eastview location. Average attendance between 90 and 110 with a high of 141.

2005 MARKERS

January
Second GroupLink bringing total number of community groups to 8.

April
First Married Life Live event.

May
Sunday morning worship moves to two services.

August
Adult and College GroupLink brings total number of community groups to 14.

2006 MARKERS

February
New community group formation brings total group number to 16.

April
Average attendance over 300 on Sundays for the month.

April
Married Life Live moves to two nights.

May
Formation of the Next Step strategy team to help determine SC3's future growth strategy.

|
2007 MARKERS

February

Sunday morning worship moves to three services.

June

Established partnership with church plant in Augusta, Maine.

August

Deacon ministry established with first class of deacon testing initiated.
GroupLink brings total number of community groups to 27.

October

SC3 purchases 4.6 acres across from Eastview campus.

November

SC3 enters lease agreement to establish the 347 and announces date of first satellite launch in October 2008.

December

SC3 adds fifth elder.

|
2008 MARKERS

January

SC3 family moves to Maine to plant new church.

October

SC3 celebrates five year anniversary in one service at Bob Jones High School auditorium.

December

First service at Five Points Campus.

|
2009 MARKERS

January

The 347 opens.

February

Madison goes to four services on Sundays.

August

SC3 signs lease for the old Sunbeam Bread Building.
The Redemption Project begins.

|
2010 MARKERS

September

First annual Gospel Community Conference hosted by SC3.

November

First service held at our newly renovated facility.

► The Mission of Summit Crossing



GOSPEL

THE MISSION:

KNOW the gospel. CONNECT to others in gospel relationships. LIVE out the gospel in the world.

GOSPEL DEFINED

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried,
that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him
we might become the righteousness of God. **1 Corinthians 5:21**

The gospel literally means “good news.” It is really hard to appreciate the good news without first understanding the gravity of the bad news. Something is wrong with the world. Something is broken inside of us. If we are honest with ourselves, we will admit that all is not right. We live in a fallen world. Catastrophes happen, people get sick and die, bad things happen to “good people.” Why?

In Genesis 3 and in Romans 1 we see that it is mankind’s desire from birth to give his life to the things that are created in place of the One who created all things. This eternally separates us from the

source of life, the creator, God. God is completely just and this rebellion demands payment. That payment is death.

That’s the bad news but the good news is this: God sent His perfect Son Jesus Christ into human history, born as a baby of a virgin, to live a perfect life and ultimately take on our sins for all time on the cross. It is here at the cross that our penalty, our justly deserved death and separation from God, is completely satisfied. We go from death to life, from corrupt to righteous, from hell to heaven. Jesus’ death is our substitute and our redemption. He became our sin so that we, who were

powerless to “fix” our dilemma, might be restored to our Father and creator as righteous and holy.

Jesus then ultimately defeated death, our greatest deficit, when He rose from the dead three days after His death and ascended to Heaven. He now stands next to Father as our advocate and His blood is offered for our sin. One day He will return to bring us home to be with the holy Trinity where we will worship God for the rest of eternity.

Now that is really, really good news.

CENTRALITY OF THE GOSPEL AT SC3

At the heart of Summit Crossing is the gospel. It is the truth of the gospel that gives us reason for existence and joy for living. Our Mission is built around the gospel, our Ministry is built around the gospel, our Expression of Worship is built around the gospel.

Everything we do as a church is based on the reality of the gospel of Jesus Christ. So be prepared, you will not only hear this

reality at every worship service and every small group gathering, but you will be encouraged to know, connect, and live this in every aspect of your life.

So it is no surprise that the mission of this local expression of the body of Christ is for us to know, connect, and live the gospel. Everything we do arises from our love of and need for the gospel.



KNOW

“ so that we may know Him who is true ”

1 John 5:20

GOSPEL FAITH

The gospel is the heart of the Christian faith. And therefore, to Know the gospel is the heart of the Christian life. It was the Apostle Paul who wrote to the Corinthian church, “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3). In Romans, Paul writes, “[The gospel] is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” To Know the gospel is necessary for salvation. Or, in other words, without knowledge of the gospel one cannot be saved. Thus, the necessity of the gospel preached (Romans 10:14-15) cannot be ignored.

To Know the gospel is not merely mental assent—although the mind is necessary to understanding the gospel. But mere mental assent does not save. To Know the gospel is to have it illuminated to our understanding by the Spirit of God in a manner, whereby we believe in the person and work of the Son of God for our sins, and in response, repent of our sins. As understood within the context of Romans and other Pauline epistles, salvation is to be understood to imply the whole of salvation—justification (God’s act of declaring or making a sinner righteous before Him through Jesus’ death on the cross), sanctification (the lifelong act of being made more like Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit), and glorification (the finality of our salvation: we will

receive perfected bodies and experience a state of unending joy in the presence of God). Therefore, the gospel is necessary, not simply to be declared righteous, or justified, before God, but for continued growth in godliness, or sanctification. Thus, it is necessary to preach the gospel to ourselves every day.

At Summit Crossing, the Know precedes Connect and Live but it cannot be isolated. James 1:22 commands us not to stop at hearing the Word but to be those who are doers of the Word. Taken farther, we believe that those who truly Know the gospel will be those who also Connect and Live the gospel.

Know happens here at Summit Crossing in three primary venues: corporate gatherings, missional community gatherings, and in the personal life of each believer. In corporate gatherings, our priorities include gospel proclamation through preaching and gospel worship through music and creative arts. In missional community gatherings, our priorities include gospel proclamation through sermon discussion and gospel conversations through intentional discipleship and mentorship. Finally, every believer should commit himself to personal study as he strives to know God and live as one of His children.

► The Core Beliefs of Summit Crossing

We believe that it is very important that we as members are on the same page. While we may all be self-confessed theologians, the truth is that none of us have all the answers about God and the way He works. However, there are some basic foundational beliefs that we feel are crucial for our members to accept. For those beliefs we hold *essential*, our *Core Beliefs*, we have *unity* as a body.

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. **Ephesians 4:1-6**

However, there are definitely some beliefs out there that are commonly debated even among those who hold most beliefs in total agreement. Outside of the *Core Beliefs*, we call these beliefs *non-essential*, and practice *liberty*.

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions ... who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls ... So then each of us will give an account of himself to God ... The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God.

Romans 14

Thus, our Core Beliefs:

About God: God is the author and creator of the entire Universe. He has always existed and always will. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are coequal; and are one God.

About Humanity: We are made in God's image. We are his prized creation. God's plan is for us to become like Him in character. This godly character only comes through the grace of Jesus Christ. We all have a rebellious spirit. Romans 3:23 says we all fall short of the glory of God. Sin separates people from God.

About Eternity: Every person is born with eternity set in their heart. God created His children to exist forever. We exist forever either in eternal separation from God, or in complete union with God through forgiveness of sin and salvation through Jesus Christ. The Bible calls the place of eternal separation Hell, and eternal union with God Heaven.

About Jesus Christ: Jesus Christ was born of a virgin by miraculous conception and lived a sinless life. He is the Son of God who came to earth as fully God and man. Jesus died on the cross for our sins. He paid a sin debt we could not pay. He arose from the grave after three days demonstrating His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory where He is the only Mediator between God and people, and will return again to earth. He will reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

About Salvation: Salvation is a free gift from God to all people. Salvation is not something we earn or deserve. It is God's way of spending eternity with His children. Salvation comes only through trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness and confessing with our mouths that He alone is Lord. God assures us through His Word that genuine salvation is eternally secure.

About God's Grace & Assurance: Because we have become adopted heirs to God's kingdom through Jesus Christ, salvation is received and maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace of God that gives believers the assurance of salvation. No power in the universe can separate God's children from Him. To suggest other wise is to suggest that God's power is limited, or that His grace is insufficient.

About the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He dwells within the believer at the point of conversion. The Holy Spirit's task is to draw men to Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. We are commanded to live in the Spirit and not our own flesh, so the Christian seeks to live under Holy Spirit's control daily.

About the Bible: The entire Bible was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Scriptures are inspired by God, and are infallible and without error in the original manuscripts. They are the unique, full and final authority on all matters of faith and practice, and there are no other writings similarly inspired by God.

About Faith & Practice: The faith of a believer is lived out through practice of God's word in one's life. Scripture is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice. The church stands on God's Word and takes each step in obedience from His word. Our speech, actions, and life are measured in light of the Scriptures.



CONNECT

“ that they may all be one ... so that the world may believe ”

John 17:20-21

GOSPEL UNITY

Connecting to others through gospel relationships is a vital part of our Christian communities. Knowing the gospel is the critical precursor in applying connection. Connection is applied first among Christian brothers and sisters who understand this scriptural mandate. Once it has been applied among others who understand it, it is applied in situations among non-Christians who will not understand it. It is applied differently among Christians and non-Christians. Among Christians, open discussion and loving accountability accompany the infusion of the gospel in their relationships with each other.

At its simplest, connecting with others from an “awareness of the gospel” point-of-view means recognizing our own broken, depraved state and how God has forgiven us. Then we approach others expecting them to be imperfect and in need of God’s grace. We are imperfect and flawed, but forgiven. We approach others first with God’s grace, but for Christian brothers and sisters, the next step is important. Because of God’s grace, we are called to pursue holiness, and we can only do that with the help of God and through his grace and forgiveness. This gives us strength and encouragement to continue pursuing holiness. We approach others with grace and truth, and we encourage others to approach their relationships with grace and truth.

At Summit Crossing, the bible is clear that Know without Connect is dead, and Connect without

Know is ignorant. Connection demonstrates love for others that goes much deeper than mere feelings and acceptance. John 17 reminds us that our unity in connection gives the world all the proof they need to accept the reality of Christ.

Connection happens here at Summit Crossing in two primary venues: gospel-centered church membership and missional community gatherings. In gospel-centered membership, it our desire to have a body of believers unified both in vision and in passion for reaching our city and our world through gospel proclamation and missional living. In missional community gatherings, our priorities include gospel connection through gospel conversations and gospel outposts (missional life, see Live).

► Membership

Why is membership important? The answer is simple, commitment. The Christian church is desperately lacking in commitment, both to Christ and His church. It's true. When someone becomes a Christian, they become an automatic "Member" in the kingdom of God. So joining the church has nothing to do with salvation or eternal life. But the church does represent the place of spiritual growth for the believer. The church is the God-ordained place of spiritually gifted ministry by those who are part of the body. Those who join the body must be committed to the mission of the body. Teamwork in ministry is in our core values, so we expect commitment from our members. If we do not serve together, then we will not become all God wants us to be.

Membership is not taken lightly at Summit Crossing. The Mission God has given us is big, really big. It will require a membership that is not only in unison concerning this vision, but one that is passionate about its accomplishment. We believe that much will be required of the members of Summit Crossing to glorify His name in kingdom work that He has given us to do here.

So, because we hold membership in such high regard here, there is a specific process we require potential members to go through. This process is not to push people away or to intimidate or to set up "hoops" to jump through. The purpose of this process is to assemble a membership that is called and set apart to do God's work in a way that is both honoring to Him and attractive to the world. See the process below:

- 1 Complete Discover Class. Sign up is online.
- 2 Sign the membership covenant and turn it in to elders or staff. Membership covenant is included in your appendix. The covenant discusses the requirements for members.
- 3 Complete the membership application and return to the elders. Application is included in your appendix.
- 4 You will then be scheduled for a membership interview with an elder and deacon. Upon completion of the interview the elders will convene and affirm approved candidates for membership. You will receive a letter of membership from Summit Crossing Community Church.

► Missional Communities

Missional Communities are the heartbeat of Summit Crossing "Community" Church. It is at the core of our mission. We are essentially a church of communities. It is our desire that every person that walks through the doors of Summit Crossing will become immersed in a gospel-centered missional community. Although corporate worship gatherings are of primary importance, it is in the context of an intimate Missional Community that the Know, Connect, and Live take root and grow.

The mission of Community Life at Summit Crossing Community Church is to bring glory to God through lives transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ within the context of authentic relationships. We do this by proclaiming

the grace of God to those in need of redemption and reconciliation, and by pursuing the grace of God for sanctification in our lives and the lives of others.

The vision of community groups is to build authentic relationships with God, our brothers and sisters in Christ and our neighbors that encourage progressive growth in the image of Christ. In Acts, the early church not only met at the temple, but also house to house. Today, we also meet together at a building to worship God, and we meet in homes to engage life with one another. By engaging life with one another in a spirit of community, worship, prayer, instruction, ministry and mission, the Spirit may transform our lives both individually and collectively

in a manner that brings glory to God. Missional Communities (small groups) provide a context where spiritual gifts are both discovered and expressed for the equipping and edifying of the church and for the evangelism of the world, where a personal vision for ministry and missions is both developed and executed.

Although the Bible does not command us to organize specifically into Missional Communities, it does presuppose that a significant relational life exists within the church. Where this does not occur naturally, the church must cultivate it. Missional Communities at Summit Crossing Community Church are the means of cultivating relational life within our local church context.

► Connect

Missional Community formation occurs several times annually through a process called Connect. Connect is a four-week gathering where potential group members learn about the biblical basis and organizational structure of Missional Community at Summit Crossing. They also examine the purpose of Missional Communities and what is expected of both the group and the individual members. It is held in the Discover Room at the Worship Center. At the end of this time new group members sign a Missional Community covenant and enter into community life at Summit Crossing. Anyone that is interested may see the dates of upcoming events and can register online.



LIVE

“ so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father ”

Matthew 5:16

G O S P E L S E R V I C E

Jesus summarizes the vertical and horizontal requirements of the law in Matthew 22:37-40 when He tells us to love God and to love our neighbor. 2 Corinthians 5:17 states that those who are in Christ are a new creation. As a new creation, we are given the ability through the Holy Spirit to love God and to love others. Our desires change from the self to that of selflessness. It is only through Christ that we are able to show a holy and righteous love to others. How does this work itself out practically in our missional communities?

Jesus calls us in the great commission to be disciple makers. God has given all of us unique gifts and talents and placed us where He has us in life with those around us who can be influenced and ultimately transformed by the Gospel. To live the Gospel is to let people in on the sanctification process in your own life. Living the Gospel moves from microscopic to universal. We learn to Live first in our own home and with our own family. This proceeds into our neighborhood, our city, and terminates on the world.

Service is central to the authentic Christian life and the authentic Christian community. The world will see the legitimacy of Christ in us through our unity and through our service. We Live when we love the city by our willingness to give to and serve those in need. This should happen both individually and corporately.

Live happens here at Summit Crossing on three fronts: family mission, individual mission, and corporate mission. Live begins at home. It is our passion that worship starts in the home. And so the first mission field is at home and families learn to worship God together and live the gospel together. Individual mission happens wherever you are. We are called to live life “on mission” and this includes work, play, etc. Finally, corporate mission involves collaborative works of the body of Christ in our missional communities, church body, neighborhoods, cities, and around the world. See the appendix for our missions support.

▶ 347

The 347 is Summit Crossing's center for the community. It is our prayer that it is a missional outpost to the city. Located in the heart of Madison off of Hughes road (between Subway and Brueggers), this two story building also houses the church offices but it's primary purpose is to connect and serve the community. Through these events we pray this facility can be used to continue to bridge the gap between the church and the community

by building relationships and providing opportunities for Gospel conversations. Currently some of these missional events are a monthly Ladies Craft night, Unplugged Music night as well as tutoring for middle and high school students each Thursday. The 347 is also open for organizations like the Madison Garden Club to use for meetings and events as well as to the community for Birthday parties, showers, etc.

We are hoping continue to plan specific missional events (financial planning, art galleries, etc) at the 347 throughout the year to love this city and show them Christ. We have several opportunities for you to serve at the 347 by hosting events, tutoring, or planning the missional events throughout the year. If you are interested in serving through the 347 or have ideas for this space contact Bailey Vinson at bailey@summitcrossing.org.

▶ Church Planting

When we launched Summit Crossing, our vision was to be a church who reproduces churches. Church planting is at the heart of the missional vision of our church. We believe planting churches is the most effective means to reach a lost world with the gospel. John Piper states four reasons to plant:

- 1** There are about 200 million non-churched people in America, making America one of the four largest "unchurched" nations in the world.
- 2** Each year about 3,500 churches close their doors.
- 3** Today, of the approximately 350,000 churches in America, four out of five are either plateaued or declining.
- 4** One American denomination recently found most of its converts came to Christ in churches less than two years old.

These reasons are staggering. God has blessed Summit Crossing with man power, finances, and leadership, and we want to be faithful stewards of these resources. Summit Crossing is a member of the Acts 29 network. What does Acts 29 mean? The name is actually referring to the book of Acts. This book is the recorded history of the beginning the body of Christ known as the church. The text ends at chapter 28. The Acts 29 network is set on being the continuation or "the next chapter" of the New Testament church. Acts 29 is a theologically sound, mission minded, church planting network. As we move forward with this vision, partnering with this organization will be a great way to plant churches. Acts 29 is not a denomination, so it does not affect how we do church. However, this network will provide coaching, equipping, resources, and accountability from like minded leaders. We will partner with other Acts 29 churches in our region to help plant other churches.

You can check out www.acts29network.com to see their vision and core values. Our church leadership lines up with these vision statements and values. We look forward to partnering with other churches in this network and our city in seeing the gospel transform lives.

► Church Leadership

Yield to those leading you, and be submissive, for they watch for your souls, as those who must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you.

Hebrews 13:17

ELDERS

Let's turn back to the last two core beliefs: About the Bible and About Faith and Practice. Where should we turn about all matters of faith, church, and life? This does not exclude church leadership. In the Old Testament God called out individual men and women to lead His

people. But that all changed with the coming of Christ. He called out 12 men in whom He entrusted His church. This denotes a plurality in leadership. Of the 18 times church leadership is mentioned after Christ's ascension, 15 of them denote plurality in church leadership (and

the other three can be viewed in light of plurality). From the birth of the church in Acts throughout its growth the church leadership is placed in the hands of a group of overseers or elders (episkopos). They are a group of *men* called out by God with five major functions:

- 1 _____ the church.
- 2 _____ the Word.
- 3 _____ the church from false doctrine.
- 4 _____ the church in sound doctrine.
- 5 _____ or care for the church body.

The qualifications for elders are very clear and can be found in 1 Timothy 3:2-7, Titus 1:6-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-3. It is indeed a high call and one that cannot be taken lightly by those called or those who submit to their authority.

Therefore, based on scripture, the ministries and overall vision of the church will be overseen by a group of men called elders who have been called out by God for this specific purpose. There is a list of SC3's practicing elders on our website. You can also email the eldership body at elders@summitcrossing.org.

DEACONS

In Acts 6, the growing young church began to experience difficulties in caring for its people. The apostles were being pulled away from prayer for the body and visionary leadership to meet physical needs. Therefore the office of deacon, literally servant, was established. We believe that this is a staple of the New Testament church leadership. If elders are the visionary leaders, then deacons are the hands and feet of Summit Crossing, the servant leadership. They exist so that the body may be cared for and so that the eldership can focus their time on prayer and shepherding. The deacon ministry can be contacted at deacons@summitcrossing.org.

► *What Now?*

1. Join the membership process.

If you feel the Lord's call to join this body, put feet to your action. Sign up for the Gospel Class and move forward in becoming a member. This is just the first step in an exciting journey with the body at SC3. After attending the Gospel Class you will sign a membership covenant and schedule your membership interview with some of our elders and deacons.

2. Get involved in a missional community.

Register online (www.summitcrossing.org) for the next GroupLink. GroupLink is offered quarterly at the 347. Ask your Discover leader about the next GroupLink.

3. Find a place to use your gifts and talents.

Think about your passions and gifts and sign up to serve with one of SC3's ministry teams.

► Summit Crossing Community Church Membership Covenant

MEMBERSHIP IS A COMMITMENT

The question is, “why is membership important?” The answer is simple, commitment. The Christian church is desperately lacking in commitment, both to Christ and His church. It’s true. When someone becomes a Christian, they become an automatic “Member” in the kingdom of God. So joining the church has nothing to do with salvation or eternal life. But the church does represent the place of spiritual growth for the believer. The church is the God-ordained place of spiritually gifted ministry by those who are part of the team. All teams require commitment. Teamwork in ministry is in our core values, so we expect commitment from our members. If we do not serve together, then we will not become all God wants us to be.

WHAT I AM PROMISING

I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior and have followed through in baptism. By my signature below, I am acknowledging that I know Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior. There was a specific time in my life that I had a life change. At this time, I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ, and began an eternal relationship with Him. I confessed my sinfulness to God, accepted His forgiveness, and called upon Him for salvation (**John 1:2; 5:24; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 10:9**).

I will take the initiative to grow as a Christian, to involve myself in settings where I will be encouraged to grow along the lines spelled out in our church mission statement. This includes actively participating in corporate worship services and missional communities. (**Ephesians 5:14-16; Galatians 5:22-23**).

I will take the initiative to serve others as I discover further my giftedness in the Body of Christ (**Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27**).

I will give regularly, generously, and cheerfully in financial support of the church (**2 Corinthians 8:12, 15; 9:7**).

I will submit to the corporate leadership of the church, to those who have oversight of the body (the elders). This includes my submission to their correction and discipline in areas of biblical error or biblical defiance (**1 Thessalonians 5:12; Hebrews 13:17; Matthew 18:15-17**).

I will commit to the following Biblical principles; Holiness (**1 Peter 1:16**), Sexual Purity (**Ephesians 5:3**), Kingdom mindedness (**Colossians 3:2**), and Spiritual Maturity (**Hebrews 6:1**).

WHAT I CAN EXPECT

You will have the confidence of knowing that you have united yourself with a local church—part of the larger (Universal) church of Jesus Christ—the only entity our Savior promised to build (**Matthew 16:18**).

You will be more attentively cared for. Your public commitment to this local body will be met with an overt commitment by this body to you and your spiritual growth. Your commitment frees the leadership and, in a sense, forces the leadership to a more intentional involvement in your spiritual development. By your involvement in a small group you will enter into the “one another” ministry of the church. One (or several) of our small group leaders will take on the shepherding responsibilities of you and your family. You will be cared for, kept up with, and personally encouraged by a small group leader and by the group itself.

You will be encouraged to grow spiritually in a loving, accepting atmosphere. Your small group leader(s), the elders of the church, and the pastoral staff will provide healthy accountability for areas of your life in which the Scriptures command us to grow. In other words, we will help you “stay the course” of the Christian life. In areas of overt biblical disobedience or defiance you will be confronted in love with your sin and encouraged to remain a faithful member of the Summit Crossing Community Church family.

You will be better equipped to serve, as your gifts, abilities, and availability become better known by others in the body.

▶ Summit Crossing Community Church Membership Covenant

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

1. **Faithful corporate worship attendance.** I will attend a weekly Summit Crossing corporate worship gathering whenever humanly possible.
2. **Faithful membership in community group.** I will join and faithfully commit to a Summit Crossing Community Group.
3. **Faithful service to the body and to the city.** I will commit to consistent service both to the body here and to the city.

signature _____

print name _____

date _____

email _____

WE ARE SO EXCITED THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO JOIN THE JOURNEY WITH US! MEMBERSHIP IS SUCH A COURAGEOUS STEP AND WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE YOU IN THE BOAT WITH US. WE ARE ALSO VERY EXCITED ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING INTERVIEW. PLEASE DO NOT LET THE WORD "INTERVIEW" SCARE YOU. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPENDING SOME FOCUSED TIME GETTING TO KNOW YOU AND HEAR HOW GOD HAS BEEN WORKING IN YOUR LIFE. WE WILL ASK YOU ABOUT THE ANSWERS YOU PROVIDE ON THE FOLLOWING CONVERSATION QUESTIONNAIRE AND SOME BASIC DOCTRINAL QUESTIONS (E.G. YOUR BELIEF ABOUT THE TRINITY, JESUS, THE BIBLE, ETC.). IT'S AN AWESOME OPPORTUNITY AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO PARTNERING WITH YOU.

► Membership Interview Information

Information

name _____ **date** _____

address _____

home phone _____ **cell phone** _____

occupation _____ **work phone** _____

marital status _____ **wedding date** _____

Children's Information

name 1 _____ **d/o/b** _____

name 2 _____ **d/o/b** _____

name 3 _____ **d/o/b** _____

name 4 _____ **d/o/b** _____

name 5 _____ **d/o/b** _____

Previous Church Membership _____

Baptized (date/location) _____

How introduced to SC3 _____ **began attending** _____

Attendance

Discover Class date _____

Gospel Class date _____

GroupLink date _____

TO BE FILLED OUT BY ELDER:

date _____

Elder/Deacons Attending Interview _____

Other Staff/Guest _____

► Membership Interview Information

Conversation Questionnaire

name _____

For the following questions, please model your answers after Paul's conversion story to King Agrippa in Acts 26:4-23. In this section, you will see that Paul's story includes who he was before he became a Christian, how he met Jesus, and how his life has changed after becoming a Christian. He concludes his account by giving a statement of his beliefs. Please complete one per family member.

1. If you are a Christian, please give an account of how you came to faith using no more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a page:

2. Please finish the following statement using no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of a page: I know I am a Christian because:

► Membership Interview Information

Conversation Questionnaire **CONTINUED**

3. If you were baptized after you became a believer in Jesus Christ, explain where and when this occurred:

A key difference between what is expected of a Summit Crossing member and an attender is that we expect our members to agree with the essential biblical beliefs of the church and to live out their faith by getting actively engaged in ministry. The following questions relate to this.

4. If you have a specific passion or ministry interest, please explain here.

*Per your signed membership covenant, a member of Summit Crossing will be faithful in the following areas: **consistency** with a corporate worship gathering, **active involvement** in a missional community, and **consistent service** both to the body during a corporate gathering and to the community at large.*

5. Are you faithfully attending a corporate Summit Crossing worship gathering?

6. Are you a member of a Summit Crossing community group?

7. In what ministry area or areas are you presently serving?

8. Do you have any concerns or questions about essential or non-essential beliefs at Summit Crossing?

► Church Information

www.summitcrossing.org

Service Information

Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Childcare Provided. Other Meetings as Announced.

Central Office at the 347

347C Hughes Road
Madison, Alabama 35758
phone: 256.325.9905
fax: 256.325.9912

Huntsville Campus Location

7200 Governor's West
Huntsville, Alabama 35806

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 148
Madison, Alabama 35758

STAFF

Kim Gilbert, Secretary

kim@summitcrossing.org

Nathan Jewett, Facilities Manager

nathan@summitcrossing.org

Andrea Johnson, Summit Kid's Director

andrea@summitcrossing.org

Greg Johnson, Executive Pastor

greg@summitcrossing.org

Patrick Johnson, Worship Pastor

patrick@summitcrossing.org

Amanda Patton, Office Administration

amanda@summitcrossing.org

Mark Sellers, Community Life Pastor

mark@summitcrossing.org

Lindsey Stewart, Administrative Assistant

lindsey@summitcrossing.org

Bailey Vinson, Missional Life Coordinator

bailey@summitcrossing.org

Paul Whaley, Teaching Pastor

paul@summitcrossing.org

Matthew Wilson, Creative

matthew@summitcrossing.org

MISSION AFFILIATIONS

Christ City Church

Jonathan McIntosh
Memphis, Tennessee

Beth Click

Kenya Relief

Dustin Belue

Campus Crusade for Christ
University of Alabama-Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama

Grace Fellowship

Tim Garland
Decatur, AL

E3 Rwanda

Rwanda

Exodus Church

Charlotte, North Carolina

Brian Lowe

Exodus Church
Charlotte, North Carolina

Manna House

Huntsville, Alabama

Blake and Sandra Rymer

Cove Life Counseling
Huntsville, Alabama

Mike and Mary Wagner

E3 Partners

Kennebec Community Church

Augusta, Maine Campus - Dan and Amanda Coleman

Cornerstone Community Church

Winthrop, Maine - Scot and Nicki Story

Trace and Ginger Donahoo

Grace Fellowship
Culcheth, England

Dan and Amy Didriksen

Campus Crusade
UA Huntsville

AND THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING AND THE FELLOWSHIP, TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND THE PRAYERS. AND AWE CAME UPON EVERY SOUL, AND MANY WONDERS AND SIGNS WERE BEING DONE THROUGH THE APOSTLES. AND ALL WHO BELIEVED WERE TOGETHER AND HAD ALL THINGS IN COMMON. AND THEY WERE SELLING THEIR POSSESSIONS AND BELONGINGS AND DISTRIBUTING THE PROCEEDS TO ALL, AS ANY HAD NEED. AND DAY BY DAY, ATTENDING THE TEMPLE TOGETHER AND BREAKING BREAD IN THEIR HOMES, THEY RECEIVED THEIR FOOD WITH GLAD AND GENEROUS HEARTS, PRAISING GOD AND HAVING FAVOR WITH ALL THE PEOPLE. AND THE LORD ADDED TO THEIR NUMBER DAY BY DAY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED.