



# The Evangelical Church Alliance

## Application for Church Membership

P.O. Box 9 Bradley, IL 60915 Phone: 815-937-0720 Fax: 815-937-0001  
E-Mail: info@ecainternational.org Web Site: www.ecainternational.org

The ECA does not exercise control over property and affairs of member churches but does require each to abide by the ECA Tenets of Faith and is subject to the ECA Disciplinary Procedure. The ECA does not provide covering under its tax exemption. The IRS does not require a church to complete an application for tax exemption status, however a church must have a Federal Employment Identification Number (FEIN).

**Fill out this form completely and mail it to the ECA along with the following required documents:**

- \$50.00 Application Fee (Foreign applicants must submit fee in a U.S. Money Order)
- Copy of Church Constitution and By-laws
- Copy of IRS Federal Employee Identification Letter
- Copy of IRS Tax Exempt Letter (Not Required)

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State (Province) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip (Postal) Code \_\_\_\_\_

Location Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State (Province) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip (Postal) Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Web \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church Staff:

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Christian Education Director \_\_\_\_\_

Board Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

When and where did the church begin \_\_\_\_\_

Check for each which would be applicable to the church's activities

Sunday Morning Worship     Sunday Night Service     Sunday School     Midweek Service     Youth     Small Groups

Church's Federal Employer Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_

Is the church a member of any other denomination or organization?     Yes     No

Please provide the name and location \_\_\_\_\_

Please state the number of Employees \_\_\_\_\_ What is the church's total annual budget amount? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the church own it's facility?     Yes     No                      Estimated Church Value \_\_\_\_\_

Does the church support home and foreign missions?     Yes     No

Please complete the next 3 pages



## **Tenets of Faith**

The ECA was founded by Godly men who were moved to band together for the purpose of promoting evangelical Christianity throughout the world. They were motivated by a strong persuasion that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the divinely inspired and inerrant Word of God, that the men who wrote it were moved by the Holy Ghost, that in its original manuscripts and languages it is without error, without contradiction, that it is historically accurate and scientifically correct, and that it is man's only and final word of authority in matters of faith and practice. They rejected the theory of organic evolution and affirmed that the opening chapters of the Book of Genesis contain the true account of creation and the beginning of life on this earth. They declared their belief in the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, His death and bodily resurrection, His ascension into heaven, that the shedding of His blood on the Cross provides man's only remedy for sin, and they looked forward to His coming again to rule on earth as King of kings and Lord of lords.

All individuals, churches and Christian organizations applying for membership shall subscribe to the following Tenets of Faith, which can never be repealed, changed, varied, altered, amended, or modified.

WE BELIEVE that both Old and New Testaments constitute the divinely inspired word of God, inerrant in the original languages and manuscripts.

WE BELIEVE in one God existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man.

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit came forth from the Father and the Son to convict the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment; and to regenerate, sanctify, comfort and seal those who believe in Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE that man is totally depraved in that of himself he is utterly unable to remedy his lost condition.

WE BELIEVE that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose atoning blood was shed on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

WE BELIEVE in the water baptism of believers, symbolizing the believer's union in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE in the observance of the Lord's Supper, commemorating the sacrifice of our Savior for all mankind.

WE BELIEVE the life of the believer is to be separated from the world by consistent conduct before God and man, and is to be in the world as life-giving light.

WE BELIEVE in the personal and visible and bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Ministerial Ethics

Every Member of the Evangelical Church Alliance is required to subscribe to and live according to the following code of ethics:

- A. The minister must keep the nobility of his calling uppermost in his own mind.
- B. The minister must hold high in outward acts the established reputation of the Christian ministry.
- C. The minister must not use his ministerial position to get unethical financial gain for himself nor must he measure the services of his office by their monetary equivalent.
- D. The minister should dress in a becoming manner.
- E. The minister should always speak with good will of another minister, and if called to supply the pulpit of a church with doctrinal tenets other than his own, and he accepts the call, he should carefully avoid making any statement at variance with the tenets of said church.
- F. It should be the aim of the pastor to make himself a part of the home while making calls, but at the same time to guard his own essential character. Ministers should at all times be careful not to indulge in gossip while making calls.
- G. The minister must be very circumspect in his or her conduct toward the opposite sex. The ideal minister will hold people equal in his heart. There is neither "male nor female, bond nor free, Greek nor barbarian" in the kingdom of which he or she is made a minister.
- H. The minister should be careful not to bring reproach on his calling by joining in marriage improper persons.
- I. The confidential statements made to a minister by his parishioners are privileged and should never be divulged without the consent of those making them.
- J. It is unethical for a minister to interfere directly or indirectly with the parish work of another minister; especially should he be careful to avoid the charge of proselytizing.
- K. As fellow laborers in the Vineyard of the Lord and brothers in the service of the same Savior, the relation between ministers should be one of frankness and understanding.
- L. The minister must confine moral conduct to the biblical standard set forth in the Disciplinary Procedure and Tenets of Faith in the ECA Constitution.

## Disciplinary Procedure

**Members of this Alliance shall be liable to discipline, censure, or removal from membership and annulment of ordination and cancellation of credentials for any of the following reasons:**

- A. Activities that bring reproach upon the Christian ministry or the Evangelical Church Alliance.
- B. Immoral or sinful conduct, or living in a state of transgression of the Holy Scriptures of the Bible (I Cor. 6:9,10 Gal. 5:19-21) as interpreted by the Executive Board based on the Tenets of Faith of the ECA set forth in its constitution.
- C. Holding or teaching doctrines that are contrary to the Word of God or in opposition to the Tenets of Faith of this Alliance.
- D. Failure to comply with the terms of the constitution and bylaws of this Alliance.

In addition to the annual dues, the ECA depends entirely upon its members to finance the work. We earnestly request your gifts and offerings to help operate the International Headquarters.

"I desire to become a member of the Evangelical Church Alliance and if received into the ECA, I will remember it in prayer and interest myself in its financial support and effectiveness. I here accept the Tenets of Faith and Ministerial Ethics. I understand the disciplinary procedure and certify, on my honor, to the truth of statements made in answer to the application questions. If accepted into the Evangelical Church Alliance, I will submit to the payment of annual dues and will submit an annual ministerial report to remain in good standing and to maintain the validity of my credentials."

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature, (Full Name) \_\_\_\_\_