

Thank you

for picking up this brochure concerning partnership at BFCF. We want to encourage you to join with us in ministering to one another and our world through this body of believers. We believe that Biblical Christianity incorporates the ideas of open identification with the body of Christ, accountability to other believers, as well as meaningful fellowship and service through a local Church. We see the local church as the center of God's plan for Christians today.

We want to strongly encourage you toward active involvement with a local body of believers. Partnership at BFCF is one way to step into the life and ministry of a local church and come under its care. It allows the church leadership to know for whom it is responsible.



Partnership



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Black Forest Christian Fellowship

**BECOMING
A PARTNER**

WHAT IS PARTNERSHIP?

Partnership is a means to publicly identify yourself as one who wishes to actively participate in the body life of BFCF and benefit from this church's ministry. The idea of partnership was conceived to allow those who desire to remain members of a local church in their country of origin to do so, while still fully committing to the life and ministry of BFCF.

WHO CAN BECOME A PARTNER?

Any regular attendee at BFCF who acknowledges Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, demonstrates a willingness to grow in maturity and in submission to His Lordship, and agrees wholeheartedly, without reservation, with the BFCF "Articles of Faith" as written in the church's constitution can become a partner at BFCF. Middle School and High School students will need parental permission.

HOW WILL I BENEFIT?

Identifying yourself publicly as one who is committed to a local church allows the other members to be more directly responsible to you and for your spiritual and material well being. It allows church leadership to clearly identify to whom they are responsible in their shepherding ministry. It also guarantees a voice in the decision-making processes of the church, opens the door to positions of leadership, and brings you into a relationship of accountability and discipline with the goal of restoration.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?

Each BFCF Partner is expected to help the church fulfill its God ordained responsibilities, participating

in the contributing to the life, fellowship and ministry of this church. This will involve exercising his or her gifts, skills, and talents in order to build up the body; guarding the unity of the body through the exercise of humility, gentleness, patience, and love in all relationships. Partners will also be expected to give regularly and generously, as God enables, toward the financial needs of the church. Partners can also support the work of the church by promoting the reputation of this church, verbally and through a lifestyle of godliness and obedience. Partners have a mutually beneficial relationship with the leadership of the church characterized by encouraging, esteeming, and submitting to the leaders God has placed in authority over the church body; as well as communicating with them concerning personal insights, needs, and concerns. Partners will also be expected to support the church by taking part in the selection and confirmation of Elders and Deacons, Congregational Meetings, and upholding its ministries and its people in prayer.

HOW DO I BECOME A PARTNER?

Fill out the response form to the right. Place it in an offering basket, give it to one of the elders, or drop it off at the church office. The elders will then initiate personal contact with you to get to know you better and give you an opportunity share with them about your personal relationship with God. This will also be an opportunity to begin to include you in the on-going shepherding ministry they wish to have within the congregation. Upon recommendation by the elder who meets with you, the elders will confirm you as a BFCF partner and you will be recognized in a public meeting or worship service.

Partnership Response Form

I am interested in partnership at Black Forest Christian Fellowship and would like an elder to contact me.

Name

Street Address

PLZ

City

Country

Phone

E-mail Address 1

E-mail Address 2

I would also like more information about....

- Baptism
- BFCF Ministries
- Fellowship Groups
- Service Opportunities

Additional comments:

Please place this form in an offering basket, give it to one of the elders, or drop it off at the church office. We look forward to partnering with you here at BFCF!