

GREATER DAYTON ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS

Updated Sept 20, 2023 by James Risner

PETITIONARY LETTER

To the Credentials Committee of the Greater Dayton Association of Baptists:

Dear Brothers:

We, _____ Church, hereby officially requests to be a participating church in the Greater Dayton Association of Baptists. By checking the following statements, we affirm that we are in agreement in the following areas of partnership / cooperation:

- We believe that churches are better together and affirm our commitment to the unity of the body described in John 17.
- We are a constituted church with an operating governance in practice as stated in our constitution and by-laws (please submit a copy of documents with this petition)
- We affirm that our doctrinal commitments are consistent with the Baptist Faith and Message of the Southern Baptist Convention 2000.
- We are / are not also planning to join with the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio.
- We are / are not also planning to contribute to Southern Baptist causes through "Great Commission Giving"

The name of the pastor is: _____

The address of our church is:

Mailing Address

Address of Meeting Place (if different)

Phone Number: _____ Pastor Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Pastor E-Mail: _____

Church EIN: _____ Church State Tax ID #: _____

Date congregation began: _____

Does your church have a sponsoring Church? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, give the name of the sponsoring church: _____



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How many members does your congregation currently have? _____

In the past year, how many members were received by:

(1) Letter _____ (2) Statement _____ (3) Baptism _____

Name and addresses for your current church pastors, deacons, treasurer and clerk:

1)

2)

3)

4)

If your church were to be welcomed to membership in the GDAB, what is your hope and expectation (for the coming year) for Missions giving allocated in your Church budget?

- a. GDAB (% of giving or fixed \$ amount) _____. This provides 100% of the financial support to accomplish the vision and mission of the GDAB.
- b. Great Commission giving to Southern Baptist cooperative missions (whether International Mission Board, Disaster Relief, etc.; % of giving or fixed \$ amount) _____
- c. Other missions support (local, national, or international) _____

We have read the Greater Dayton Association of Baptists Corporate By-laws (provided) and agree to abide by its precepts in cooperation with our sister churches of the Association.

This Petitionary Letter was approved at the (date) _____ church business meeting/ elders meeting.

Signatures of:

Pastor: _____ Church Clerk: _____

ACTION TAKEN BY GDAB

After careful and prayerful review of the petition, Constitution, By-Laws,
We, the Greater Dayton Association of Baptists, in Annual Meeting, hereby accept the request of _____ Church to be a cooperating and associating sister church and extend to her all the benefits of said Association.

Signatures of:

Clerk: _____ Date: _____

Moderator: _____ Date: _____

Associational Missionary: _____ Date: _____



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PETITIONARY PROCESS TO JOIN THE GDAB

This is our process for when a prospective church in our area expresses an interest to join the GDAB:

1. Pastor meets with Associational Missionary of GDAB

1. Introduce GDAB; who we are, what we do, why we exist
 - a) Overview of SBC relationships
2. Introduce prospective church
 - a) Leadership, history, mission
 - b) Reason for interest in GDAB
3. Review process
 - a) Documents
 - b) Credentials Committee
 - i. Meeting
 - ii. Recommendation to Executive Board
 - c) Executive Board
 - i. Meeting
 - ii. Recommendation to Annual Meeting

2. Church submits initial application to join

3. GDAB Receive church documents

1. Petitionary Letter
2. Constitution / By-Laws
3. Brief written history of church
4. Statement of Faith

4. GDAB Credentials Committee

1. Review documents
 - a) Request additional information if required
2. Interviews church pastor / leadership
 - a) Affirms faith & practice; adherence to BFM
 - b) Affirms consistency of purpose and mission
 - c) Affirms desire to engage and contribute
3. Prayerfully responds to Executive Board

5. GDAB Executive Board

1. Receives recommendation from Credentials Committee
2. Meets prospective church pastor in an Executive Board meeting
3. Prayerfully responds with recommendation to the Association annual meeting
4. Associational Missionary responds to prospective church
5. If Affirmative, the church will be under 'Watchcare' until formally received into the Association at the next annual meeting.



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6. GDAB office

1. Send church a Welcome Letter with new pastor information sheet, contact information, church directory, and contribution information.
2. Associational Missionary meets with church pastors to take next steps in the partnership, whether planting, coaching, encouragement, etc.
3. Include the church, pastor and leaders as appropriate in communications
 - a) Watchcare members will be invited to participate in meetings, trainings, and events as a regular associational member church.

7. GDAB Annual Meeting

1. Vote of affirmation upon recommendation of Credentials Committee.

