

Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association

Application for Affiliation

Being in agreement with the nature and purpose of the Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association, we hereby request to affiliate this body for the purpose of cooperating in advancing the gospel and promoting the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Mid-Valley and around the world.

Name of Church _____

Address _____
Street address / Mailing address, if Different / City / State / Zip

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____ Website _____

Date church began as a mission _____

Date constituted as a church _____

Founding Pastor _____

Present Pastor _____

Resident Membership _____

Attendance in Worship service(s) _____

Attendance in Bible Study or Small Groups _____

Please include with your application:

- Copy of Articles of Incorporation
- Statement of Faith
- Constitution and By-laws
- Annual Church Profile (available from the Association office)

Statement of Cooperation

We agree to cooperate with the Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association in fulfilling the Great Commission. We further agree to demonstrate cooperation by:

- Regularly contributing to and participating in the Great Commission efforts of the Association. State the percentage of your undesignated receipts will you be contributing to Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association? _____
- Submitting an Annual Church Profile by October 1 of each year.

This done by vote of the church in conference, this the ____ day of _____, 20__.

_____ Moderator or Pastor

_____ Church Clerk

Please explain the reasons your church is requesting affiliation and participation with Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association (attach additional pages if necessary):

(Send Application to: Credentials Committee, Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association, 825 W. Ashlan, Ste 101, Clovis, CA 93612, or by Email: mvsba@yahoo.com)

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

(from Constitution and By-Laws of Mid-Valley Southern Baptist Association. Complete document is available at www.midvalleybaptists.com)

Section 1. The purpose of this Association shall be to promote the preaching of the gospel and the spread of divine truth at home and abroad, and to cooperate with the Southern Baptist Convention, California Southern Baptist Convention, and their agencies, and to stimulate the spirit of missions as found in Matthew 28:16-20.

Section 2. This Association is purely a cooperative body, and its purpose shall be to provide fellowship among the churches, to promote Christian education, and to furnish a means by which the Southern Baptist churches in their sovereign capacity can work together in promoting all denominational enterprises which they deem necessary in carrying out the Great Commission.

ARTICLE III - CONSTITUENCY

This association will consist of messengers elected by the Southern Baptist churches cooperating with and contributing to the work of the Association as follows:

Section 1. Each church in the Association having fifty (50) members or less shall send its pastor and three (3) messengers, with one (1) additional messenger for every twenty-five (25) members there above, provided that no church shall have more than ten (10) messengers.

Section 2. This Association shall be composed of messengers elected by the Southern Baptist churches who are friendly to this Association and sympathetic with its purpose and work, provided that the church or churches have adopted Articles of Faith generally accepted by the Southern Baptist churches.

Section 3. Messengers shall not be seated in the annual meeting of the Association until the Annual Church Profile or an equivalent report for the preceding year shall have been filed with the Association Clerk.

ARTICLE IX - NEW CHURCHES

Section 1. New churches which are in sympathy with the principles, purposes and methods of this Association desiring admission into its fellowship shall make application for a cooperative relationship by proper petitionary letter and messengers.

Section 2. When a church makes application for recognition as a cooperating constituency by petitionary letter and messengers, the credentials committee shall inquire into its Articles of Faith, manner and nature of its organization and fellowship. Upon a favorable report from the committee, the church may be recognized as a cooperating body by a majority vote.

Section 3. The Executive Board, acting for the Association between sessions, may, in the manner stated above, receive applications for membership, and after proper investigation and favorable report of the committee, recognize the petitioning church as a cooperating body by a majority vote with all the rights and privileges of the Association.

ARTICLE X - AUTHORITY

Section 1. This Association shall never exercise any authority whatsoever over any church, nor shall it interfere in any way with the constitution of any church, or with the exercise of its functions as the only ecclesiastical body, but will always cheerfully recognize and uphold absolute independence of the churches.

Section 2. While this Association does not assume any authority over any church and its members, it does reserve to itself the right to withdraw fellowship from any church which shall become corrupt in faith and practice.