Application for Congregational Membership

We believe, teach and confess the Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe, teach and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and the Gospel as the power of God for the salvation of all who believe in him.

a. Jesus Christ is the Word of God incarnate, through whom everything was made and through whose life, death and resurrection God fashions a new creation.

b. The proclamation of God's message to us as both law and gospel is the Word of God, revealing judgment and mercy in the person of Jesus Christ, through whom God was pleased to reconcile all things to himself.

c. The canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God. Inspired by God's Spirit speaking through their authors, they record and announce God's revelation centering in Jesus Christ. Through them, God's Spirit speaks to us to create and sustain Christian faith and fellowship for service in the world.

We believe, teach and accept the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God, and the sole authoritative source and norm of our proclamation, faith and life.

We accept the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds as true declarations of the scriptural faith we believe, teach and confess.

We believe, teach and accept the unaltered Augsburg Confession and the Small Catechism as true witnesses to the Word of God, normative for our teaching and practice. We acknowledge that we are one in faith and doctrine with all churches that likewise accept the teachings of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession. We believe, teach and confess the other confessional writings in the Book of Concord, namely, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise, the Large Catechism, and the Formula of Concord as further valid expositions of the Holy Scriptures.

We believe, teach and confess the Gospel, recorded in the Holy Scriptures and confessed in the ecumenical creeds and Lutheran confessional writings, as the power of God to create and sustain the priesthoodof all believers for God's mission in the world.

In the conviction that God has called us through the Lordship of His Son, Jesus Christ and the guidance of His Holy Spirit to confess the gospel in its purity, this congregation makes our request to join the LCMC Northwest District and does subscribe to the Statement of Faith, the Statement of Purpose, and other provisions of the constitution of the LCMC Northwest District.

This application shall be subject to acceptance by the Northwest District Council with full voice and vote.

Name of Congregation: _____

Mailing Address:_____ **Street Address:**_____

City:_____ **State:**_____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone:_____ **Church e-mail:** _____

Pastor's Name:_____ **Date:**_____

Congregational President's Name:_____ **Average Worship Attendance:**____

Congregational President's Signature:_____ **Date:** _____

Mail To: Pastor Robin K. Nice Bjella, District Coordinator, c/o American Lutheran Church P.O. Box 21, Winnifred, MT 59489