

## Membership in ICF

### **A stable core**

Most Christian churches have a membership list and ICF is not different in this respect. Every community that wants to last needs a stable base of people who carry the vision and who want to take responsibility. So we invite you cordially to consider becoming a full member (see below for how). Once you have registered your name, one of the church leadership will have a talk with you about your faith, how we can best serve you, and the vision of ICF. You will receive an introduction<sup>1</sup> in which we introduce ourselves and you may ask any questions you have. We hope to welcome you as a new member in one of our services.

### **Expectations**

A full member is someone who has an active faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. We respect the different Christian traditions that people come from. Yet we recognize each other on the basis of the apostolic confession (see annex A). A more modern formula of this can be found in the IFES doctrinal basis (annex B). Besides this we ask of members that they respect our bylaws<sup>2</sup> as they have been worked out to let things move smoothly.

### **Family**

We are a fellowship with a family atmosphere, so we hope to get to know you personally. We want to share our lives in ICF, which means that we care about how you are doing. You may expect moral and spiritual (and in some cases material) support in tough times. We also want to share your successes and joys as we hope you want to share those of others in the community. Therefore we encourage you to participate regularly in the activities of ICF, like the Sunday services, the Connect groups and/or other social events. We hope that members also contribute financially to the expenses that we have to make. For certain functions in the church full membership is asked. We hope to give training and/or coaching for leadership roles if required.

### **Benefits**

You have the right to participate in the members meetings<sup>3</sup> which includes a voting right, concerning the vision and administration of the church. We include your minor children if you have those in the

membership. There is a range of children's activities that they may join. For those who want to marry in the church we are glad to talk about what this means and assist in preparing for it in an appropriate way. We offer counseling in case of personal, marital or family difficulties. You have the privilege to make use of our Homebase facilities if available. In general we want to give any assistance that is needed to all our members.

### **Visitors**

We understand that the situations of people are diverse. Some persons are only very temporarily in Wageningen, or they are still considering which stand to take regarding the Christian faith and the Church. This is alright, you are no less welcome to share in our activities. For those who come more often we offer the possibility to register as a visitor. This way you are known to us and we are able to support you as needed. You may even find in the process that you would like to have more responsibility and take up a role in the Church. At that point you may still decide to become a member.

### **Welcome**

We hope that you feel welcome, whatever your background, and that you will take the opportunity to explore the Christian faith with us.

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### **How to become a member? Go to:**

<https://www.icfwageningen.org/membership/>

Name

Email

Phone

Country of origin

- I believe in Christ as Lord and Saviour
- I hope to serve the ICF community with my gifts by regularly attending and contributing to ICF activities
- I accept the authority of the Church council in regulating the life of ICF, and I am open its guidance concerning my spiritual life.
- I consent that pictures in which I may be visible are used for the purpose to make ICF and its activities known in Wageningen, which may include pictures on ICF's website or Social media

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<sup>1</sup> 2018: This is now our email chain introduction when you sign up at our (online) Guestbook, we will work on a more specific introduction document in 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Integrated proposal on the doctrine and organization of ICF Wageningen, February 2013

<sup>3</sup> Until 4 months after leaving ICF, page 4, Integrated Proposal

## ANNEX A

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into Hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

## ANNEX B

International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) doctrinal basis, 2018

- The unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the Godhead.
- The sovereignty of God in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgment.
- The divine inspiration and entire trustworthiness of Holy Scripture, as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- The universal sinfulness and guilt of all people since the fall, rendering them subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
- Redemption from the guilt, penalty, dominion and pollution of sin, solely through the sacrificial death (as our representative and substitute) of the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God.
- The bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead and his ascension to the right hand of God the Father.
- The presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the work of regeneration.
- The justification of the sinner by the grace of God through faith alone.
- The indwelling and work of the Holy Spirit in the believer.
- The one holy universal Church which is the body of Christ and to which all true believers belong.
- The expectation of the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ