



New Wells believes the success of every ministry and ministry leader happens when fresh wells of God's Spirit and leadership are open and active in their lives.

## New Wells Membership

Membership within New Wells falls under two categories:

1. **Member:** those who are engaged in vocational ministry or those who function in a specialized and intensive field of volunteer ministry.
2. **Ordained Member:** those functioning in a ministry position (full time or bi-vocational) who meets the qualifications found in the following sections.

### New Wells Member

#### Classification of Member

Anyone serving in a full-time, part-time, marketplace, or volunteer ministry position who desires pastoral fellowship – care, resources & accountability.

*For those desiring ordination in his/her future,* membership allows New Wells leadership to observe and support a developing minister, and address things like diligence in study, correctness in doctrine, faithfulness in church work and leadership, practical abilities, people skills, and character issues such as cynicism and relationship to spiritual authority.

#### Duration of Term

Membership is renewed by attending the annual conference each June. If no participation for two consecutive years, membership will end.

### New Wells Ordained Member

#### Classification of Ordained Member

In ordination, the work of the Holy Spirit is recognized in setting apart, assigning, and blessing qualified men or women for ministry. Authority and power for ministry is given by the authority of Jesus as the head of the church.

Ordination takes place as a public service with the laying on of hands and is verified with a written credential that fortifies and supports a minister, recognizing that he or she has proven themselves through preparation, orientation and a lifestyle that is foundational to leadership and ministry as servants of a local church. The ordination service provides, in addition to its public acknowledgement that the person has been called and

qualified, an opportunity to make a fuller consecration of his/her life and is one of the most significant spiritual experiences of his/her life.

Ordination is available to men or women who meet the biblical qualifications in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9, and who are fulfilling one of the ministries given to the Church by Christ in Ephesians 4:11, and for those whose ministry includes: preaching, teaching, evangelizing, counseling and administering the ordinances. It is exercised in various assignments recognized by the church, such as pastor, evangelist, missionary, itinerant preacher, and chaplain. It is generally given to those who are full time in ministry or who serve in a senior position in the church.

## Duration of Term

Membership is in effect for an annual term expiring December 31 of each year. A renewal form is required to be submitted to New Wells Ministry Network on an annual basis, to be sent out electronically in November each year. Upon receipt of a \$100 annual fee and completed renewal form, a new card will be provided. If these are not received on or before the first day of each New Year, these credentials will be forfeited (and/or the cost increases to \$150).

If applying for Ordination Credentials, a \$100 annual fee is due prior to June ordination. New Wells ordains new members in mid-June of each year at the annual conference and those credentials are good for 18 months.

## Procedural Steps to Apply for Ordained Membership

1. Complete initial application form at [newwellsnetwork.com/join](http://newwellsnetwork.com/join).
2. Participate in an interview with Pastors Rod and Daniel or Credentials Team.
3. Following interview, follow-up forms (2 personal letters of recommendation, 1 pastoral/professional letter of recommendation) will be sent for completion.
4. Completion or response to any other requested documentation.
5. Final meeting for Ordination Candidate (including spouse if applicable).
6. Allow 2-3 weeks for Credentials Team to follow-up.

## Requirements for Ordination

### PERSONAL CRITERIA:

1. Must be a born-again, Spirit-filled believer with a scriptural testimony of Christ working in your life.
2. You and your family (if married) must be attending a local church regularly.
3. Must be 18 years of age.
4. Must have a conviction to be called to ministry or vocational and proclamation-oriented ministry.
5. Must be capable of paying annual credential fee.
6. Accept responsibility of consistent financial support to your home church.
7. If not serving at a senior level of ministry, must be active in the leadership of a ministry within your local church or in your community.
8. Must be willing to submit to New Wells leadership as a voice in your life.
9. Members must make a priority to attend all scheduled conferences.
10. Must sign a Minister's Statement of Commitment and submit an annual Renewal.

### EDUCATIONAL AND INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. Must have some type of ministerial training (Bible College, Leadership Training, Ministerial Training, Correspondence Course, Individual Study and/or Apprenticeship Program, etc.).
3. Must have served in an internship or in ministry leadership.

## MATURE CHRISTIAN LEADER REQUIREMENTS (in accordance with Acts 6, 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1)

### Personality Characteristics:

- Personable, warm, caring, sincere, willingness to be available
- People are naturally drawn to, and follow after
- Not selfishly ambitious
- Handles pressures well
- Self-controlled tongue, no gossip, not quarrelsome
- Positive attitude/outlook
- Bold – shows strength

### Spiritual Characteristics

- Unquestionable love for God
- Recognizes sin and understands value of repentance
- Not striving but wants God's fullness (always growing)
- Strong and steadfast faith in the Word (loves to read the Bible daily)
- Full of the Holy Spirit (operates in the gifts and has fruitful ministry)
- Has a practical application of the Word
- Not a new Christian (mature and growing)
- A person of prayer
- Has spiritual perseverance
- Knows his/her identity in Christ
- Obedience to the Father

### Ministry Characteristics

- Motivation is purely love for God, not for personal need of fulfillment (a heart attitude)
- Loves to minister (a natural response)
- Sensitive to the Spirit
- Proven by fruitfulness

- Able to teach and counsel
- Willing to serve at any level
- Committed to a body of believers

### Physical

- Has stamina to endure stress
- Has vitality to enjoy ministry & personal life

### Emotional

- Not prone to depression
- Minimal personal problems
- Not excessively wounded

### Spiritual

- Healthy concept of the Father
- Receives God's love
- Always moving toward wholeness
- Good marriage
- One wife/husband
- Evenly yoked in marriage, one with God
- United in vision
- Communicate well with each other
- Disciplined children
- Values family life

### General

- Submits to authority
- Servant's heart, good attitude
- Respected
- Good reputation inside & outside the church

### Work characteristics

- Self-motivated
- Manages time well
- Good work ethic
- Tested and proven faithful in other jobs

## Removal of Credentials

Removal from membership may occur by voluntary request of a member or by action of the Credentials Team. Credentials may be revoked due to: inactivity, incompetence, heresy, failure to follow counsel, failure to uphold credentialing requirements or statement of commitment, or any moral violation.

## Reinstatement of Credentials

If a minister resumes ministerial activity after his credentials were discontinued because of inactivity, the credentials may be reinstated without a new ordination ceremony by the action of the Credentials Team. In cases where credentials were revoked because of heresy or moral violation, a return to the ministry with recognized credentials will require completion of reinstatement application.

## MINISTER'S STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

In applying for credentials, all candidates are asked to provide a signature stating he/she is in agreement with the following statement of commitment:

realize that by receiving these credentials, I am entering a covenant with all other gospel ministers to live a clean, pure, holy, and upright life; one in which Jesus Christ is honored and that my ministerial behavior and conduct of duties will be performed with utmost accuracy, professionalism, excellence, and always in line with the Holy Scriptures.

I endorse the entire New Wells Ministry Network Statement of Faith. I will do my utmost to live and minister according to the beliefs therein. I am willing to accept counsel and leadership from New Wells Ministry Network, and I submit myself to New Wells Leadership to speak into my life and ministry.

I understand that New Wells Ministry Network has the authority to revoke my ministerial credentials if my conduct becomes reproachful or if I break this covenant in any way.

I understand that this is a network of authentic relationships that exist amongst ministry leaders that can bring encouragement, inspiration, vision, and accountability, so that Pastors and ministry leaders receive care.