

February 7, 2013

Name
Address
City, State, Zip

Dear _____,

Our records indicate that you have not shared in worship with us for at least a year. In an effort to ensure a more accountable church membership we are seeking to contact nearly 2000 people, who like yourself, have neglected assembling with us and participating in the fellowship. We are concerned and want to make sure you have some source of support in your Christian faith. Our Bylaws define a member as either Active or Inactive and the circumstances and procedures of how to terminate a membership and be removed from our rolls.

2.2.1 Active Membership

Active membership shall be defined as one who attends and supports the Church by participation and contributions and seeks to promote the spiritual growth and welfare of the church family, and will agree to abide with the Constitution and Bylaws of Springhill Baptist Church. Such a member shall be considered a member in good standing.

2.2.2 Inactive Membership

Inactive membership shall be those who do not meet the definition of Active Membership. Such status shall be recommended by the Council of Elders and voted on by the congregation at one of the designated business meetings. If an evaluation of inactivity is determined by the Council of Elders, an effort will be made to meet with that member to ascertain if there is just cause for inactivity. If after counsel, no just cause is determined, that member may be deemed "inactive." An inactive member may petition the Council of Elders, either verbally or in writing. After a ninety (90) day probation and having met the terms of active membership as defined above, the Council of Elders will bring the member before the congregation for recommendation at a regular designated business meeting for consideration and vote by the congregation.

2.5 Termination of Membership

1. Death -The name of a member shall be removed from the church roll upon verification of their death.
2. Transfer - Any active member may request that a letter of membership be transferred to another fellowship of like faith. No letter will be granted to a member who is under the corrective discipline of this church.
3. Removal. Any member upon verification will be removed from the membership roll, if they have:
 - a. Moved from the community and no longer attend Springhill Baptist Church.
 - b. Joined or regularly attend another church.
 - c. Has been an inactive member for a consecutive 3 year period.

d. Whereabouts unknown.

Enclosed is a postcard on which we would like for you to check the area most appropriate for your situation, sign the card and *return it to the church office within 30 days*. Our hopes are that you will desire to once again become an active member of Springhill

We pray that God will continue to be the source and goal of your life and that you seek a church family soon if not Springhill. We look forward to hearing from you.

In Christ,

The Elders

Name: _____

Please choose one of the following and sign below:

I wish to become an active member of Springhill Baptist Church again. I would like the opportunity to visit with you and discuss membership in this congregation. Below are some possible times that would be good to receive a visit:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

I am attending another church. Please remove my name from the membership rolls. *Please indicate which church you are presently attending:*

Church: _____

I wish to be removed from the membership. (*We encourage you to find a church family, a place where God can speak to you and give you saving love.*)

Please sign and return to the church within thirty days stating your desire.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
(904) 261-4741
www.springhillbaptistfb.org



Stamp

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February 7, 2013

Name _____
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City, State, Zip _____

Dear _____

This letter is a follow up to previous correspondence from the Elders asking you to return a postcard indicating your wishes regarding membership here at Springhill Baptist Church. We had hoped to hear from you! Because you have not responded to our letter dated _____ from the Council of Elders and because you have not participated in the life of the church for at least three years, your name will be recommended for removal. We will be presenting your name to the congregation for removal at the next business meeting, scheduled for _____.

However, because our desire is to have you involved in the worship and ministry of the church, please know you can begin to be restored to the active membership any time should you desire to become active. Section 2.7 of our Bylaws provides the following as guidance:

2.7 Restoration to Church Membership

The goal of all discipline is a holy walk under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and obedience to His Word. The right to exclude persons or the withdrawal of fellowship is in harmony with the teachings of the Word of God (Matt 18:15–17; 1 Cor 5; 2 Thess 3:6), and is balanced by the call to restore such persons who have given satisfactory evidence of repentance (2 Cor 2:6–8). When a person gives such evidence, the Council of Elders shall recommend that the person be restored to full fellowship in this church.

A life of faith is certainly more than having your name on a membership list. It is about worshiping, studying God's Word, serving in the name of Christ, and receiving the Lord's Table. It's about gathering regularly with other sisters and brothers of the faith. That is what is important!

If and when you are ready to commit yourself to active involvement at Springhill Baptist Church, it would be our joy to welcome you back.

In Christ,

The Elders