

THE VINEYARD - USA  
A COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES

# Church Adoption Application

I agree to allow all information found in this questionnaire, whether written, or oral, to be made available to the National, Regional, or Area leadership of the Vineyard – USA or their assignees, for their exclusive use in assessing this application for adoption to the Vineyard - USA.

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Personal History**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Single: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Married: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Widowed: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Date of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Widowed: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of children:

a. \_\_\_\_\_ e. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ f. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_ g. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_ h. \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been divorced? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Has your spouse ever been divorced? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If either you or your spouse has been divorced, please write the circumstances of that divorce. (Write on the back of this page or use separate sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Have you had any sexual experience outside of marriage during your ministry? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, please discuss: \_\_\_\_\_

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Education: List High School, College, Graduate Schools attended: \_\_\_\_\_

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Degrees received: \_\_\_\_\_

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Majors: \_\_\_\_\_

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Courses that are pertinent to ministry: \_\_\_\_\_

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Employment History: List all employment in the past 10 years (dates, companies, position and duties, reason for terminating/leaving, references. Use a separate sheet if necessary)

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Have you ever been arrested and convicted (other than minor traffic offenses)?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If so, give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever declared personal bankruptcy? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If so, give details (use separate sheet if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you over sixty (60) days delinquent on any payments?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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When and where were you saved? \_\_\_\_\_

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What was the date and circumstance of your initial exposure to Vineyard? \_\_\_\_\_

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Please give the names of the Vineyard pastors you have connected with: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please give the names of the Vineyard churches you have visited: \_\_\_\_\_

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How many visits have you had to each of the above listed churches? \_\_\_\_\_

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Which of the materials given to you after you expressed a desire to adopt into the Vineyard have you read? \_\_\_\_\_

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What tapes have you listened to? \_\_\_\_\_

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If you have read George Eldon Ladd's *The Gospel of the Kingdom*, can you explain his teaching on the Kingdom of God? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_ Haven't read yet \_\_\_\_\_

If you have read Fee and Stewart's *How to Read the Bible For All It's Worth*, can you explain what is meant by *third wave* of the Holy Spirit? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_ Haven't read yet \_\_\_\_\_

Can you explain the Vineyard Prayer Model? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure \_\_\_

Do you practice the Vineyard Prayer Model when praying for people? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Do you have a Small Group Ministry in your church? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

What is your background in doing small group ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

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Some common forms of church government are Congregational, Episcopal, and Presbyterian. Please explain what you understand the Vineyard-USA's government to be. What does this mean in terms of local church autonomy? What does it mean in terms of the authority of the National Director, the National Board or the APCs?

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Why do you wish to join the Vineyard-USA? (Use separate sheet, if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

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Detail your expectations regarding your association with Vineyard. (Use separate sheet, if necessary.)

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What concerns do you have about joining the Vineyard-USA? (Use separate sheet, if necessary.)

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Has the Lord spoken to you personally and specifically about joining the Vineyard? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
If yes, please explain how and when: \_\_\_\_\_

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How do you envision your future relationship with the Vineyard-USA overseers?

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What has to happen for your *church* to make the necessary changes for adoption? (Use separate sheet, if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

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What steps have you taken in the process? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is your preferable time frame for adoption? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If adopted into the Vineyard-USA, what will you name your church?  
\_\_\_\_\_

How will you formalize the legal change? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware of any opposition in your *church* to your adoption into the Vineyard? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware of any opposition among your *leaders* to your adoption into the Vineyard?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware of any opposition in any current association or denomination of which your church is a part? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Ministry History and Beliefs (Last ten years):**

List responsibilities and positions held in any church body: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you licensed by any church body? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ With whom? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you ordained? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ With what association? \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been associated with any denomination, fellowship or association of churches in the last ten years? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Name all associations and contact people within the associations listed above (Use separate sheet, if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any continuing obligation to any association or denomination for any reason? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever left the ministry (ministry employment) for any reason? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been disciplined by any group? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Give the details (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of any ministerial association in your local community? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, name, address, and phone number of a personal reference in that association:

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Have you fully considered the *Theological and Philosophical Statements* adopted by the Vineyard-USA?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Do you fully subscribe to the *Theological and Philosophical Statements*? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Do you publicly proclaim the doctrines of the Theological and Philosophical Statements from the pulpit?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

What are your views on the following subjects? (Use a separate sheet.)

- a. The inerrancy of Scripture
- b. The Kingdom of God
- c. The baptism in the Holy Spirit
- d. Theology and practice of healing
- e. Demonization and deliverance
- f. Spiritual gifts
- g. Tongues

**References:** Give as personal references the names, addresses and phone numbers of at least three people; preferably one ordained pastor, one lay person who has received your ministry and perhaps a co-laborer (fellow elder). Please specify relationship.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Church History:**

Give name, address, telephone numbers and education of all other staff:

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Are you the planting pastor of this church? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Was your church *sponsored* or otherwise helped at its startup by any other group, association, or denomination? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, detail the other group's involvement:

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When did your church start? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your church experienced any splits? Give details (Use separate sheet if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_

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What was the outcome? \_\_\_\_\_

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Any church mergers? \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

With what group(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

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Has the church been involved in any lawsuits? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_

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Have there been or are there now any threats of lawsuits? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_

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Has your church been related to any denomination or association in the past? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

What was the nature of the relationship? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are there any unresolved issues with respect to any denomination or association? (Use separate sheet, if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

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Do your church by-laws require your congregation to approve of adoption by the Vineyard-USA? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Result of congregational vote? For \_\_\_ Against \_\_\_

Has the church or any of its leaders pursued affiliation with any other association, denomination or other grouping? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, give the reasons for non-association with such body. (Use separate sheet, if necessary.)

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What is the church's vision statement? (Use separate sheet, if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

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How is the church involved in ministry to the poor? \_\_\_\_\_

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What commitments do you currently have for missionary support? \_\_\_\_\_

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#### **4. Legal issues of the church:**

Are you a tax-exempt corporation? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (If yes, send form 1023 requesting letter of exemption and letter from IRS recognizing exemption.)

Do you have Articles of Incorporation? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (If yes, send Articles of Incorporation.)

Does the church have bylaws? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (If yes, send bylaws)

Has the church deviated from the articles and by-laws in the last three years? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Explain (Use separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_

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Has the church made corporate minutes in the last three years? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (If yes, send a copy of corporate minutes for the last three years.)

Has there been any church discipline against any members exercised in the last three years?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, give details of circumstances. (Use separate sheet, if necessary.)

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Does the church own real property? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, in whose name is real property held?

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In whose name is any mortgage held? \_\_\_\_\_

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Mortgage amount outstanding? \_\_\_\_\_

If the church rents property, what is the monthly rent? \_\_\_\_\_

Where are the financial and legal records kept for the church? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who has control of such records? \_\_\_\_\_

Give general description of the facility where your church meets: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are the insurance limits for your church? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the liability coverage amounts for the church? \_\_\_\_\_

Are all federal, state and local tax deposit obligations current? If not, give details (Use a separate sheet, if necessary.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Has the church complied with all federal, state and local payroll and payroll reporting requirements?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any accounts payable, notes payable or other financial obligations delinquent for more than thirty (30) days? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, give details: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Give schedule of all long-term debt including note holder, name, address, original amount, current balance, and payment amounts: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Church Demographics**

Median age? \_\_\_\_\_ Median income? \_\_\_\_\_

Racial composition? \_\_\_\_\_

Average weekly attendance at Sunday a.m. service:

Past month: \_\_\_\_\_

Six months ago: \_\_\_\_\_

One year ago: \_\_\_\_\_

Three years ago: \_\_\_\_\_

List all ministries currently active in the church: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List all social, political action involvements in the community: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Monetary Information:**

Please provide

- Current income statements and a current balance sheet
- Income statements and balance sheets, if available, for the last three years.

Give monthly contribution amounts for the last two years: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Compensation Issues:**

What is the compensation history for the Senior Pastor for the last three years? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For other leaders in the last three years? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How was compensation determined for the Senior Pastor? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who was involved in the decision-making? Give names, addresses and telephone numbers. (Use separate sheet, if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How was compensation determined for other staff members? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**8. Commitments:**

Do you understand the financial commitments required of you by the Vineyard-USA?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Please explain your understanding: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What other commitments do you think you will need to make as part of your commitment to help the Vineyard achieve its God-given mission? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What commitments do you understand the Vineyard-USA is making to you when you become a Vineyard pastor or church? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_