

# West Hills Home School Group

## Membership Application

### 2015-2016

West Hills Home School group, a church based support group, exists to help equip Christian parents who are educating their children at home. We are a network of many families from West Hills Community Church as well as other local evangelical Christian churches. We strive to build one another up from a Biblical perspective as we offer encouragement, share information and resources, and pray for one another.

Membership is open to Christian home schooling families who are in agreement with the West Hills Home School group Statement of Faith (see page four) and who are active and regular attenders of a local evangelical Christian church.

Because we are a volunteer organization, **we rely on all members to help with one or more activity throughout the year**, unless it is the member's first year of home schooling, or there is a newborn in the family. Members share the responsibilities of organizing field trips, park days, family gatherings and events such as our annual Science Fair, Share Fair, and Recognition Night.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Names of Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been home schooling? \_\_\_\_\_

Children (Please list names and birth dates):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**\*\* If you are not a member/regular attender of West Hills Community Church, please include on the back of this application (or on a separate sheet of paper) a brief written testimony of your faith in Christ. Membership in subsequent years will not require additional testimonies.**

**WEST HILLS HOME SCHOOL GROUP  
AGREEMENT AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY**

Any information received, whether in writing or otherwise, from West Hills Home School Group to member families or attendees does not constitute legal advice.

We, the undersigned parents or legal guardians of the above- named child/children, acknowledge that we have voluntarily applied for our child/children to participate in the activities sponsored by West Hills Home School Group, which activities may include public or private transportation to and/or from the sponsored activities.

We are aware that there are certain hazards involved in participating in any of these sponsored activities. We are voluntarily participating in, and allowing our child/children to participate in, these activities with knowledge of the potential dangers involved, and we hereby agree to accept any and all risks of injury, sickness, or death which may occur to our child/children or to ourselves before, during, after, in transit to, or in transit from, any activity sponsored by West Hills Home School Group.

As consideration for our child/children being permitted by West Hills Home Schoolers or one of its affiliated organizations to participate in these activities and use their facilities, we hereby agree that we, our assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives will not make claim against, sue, or attach the property of West Hills Home School Group or any of its affiliated organizations for any damage, injury, sickness, or death resulting from the non-willful negligence or other acts, howsoever caused, by any employee, agent, contractor, administrator, teacher, or helper of West Hills Home Schoolers, as a result of our child's /children's participation in the sponsored activity. We hereby release West Hills Home School Group and any of its affiliated organizations from all actions, claims, or demands that we, our assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for any damage, injury, sickness, or death resulting from our child's/children's participation in any activities sponsored by West Hills Home School Group.

Any dispute between West Hills Home School Group and members will be determined through binding arbitration.

**WE HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. WE ARE AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN OURSELVES AND WEST HILLS HOME SCHOOL GROUP AND ITS AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AND WE SIGN IT OF OUR OWN FREE WILL.**

Executed at \_\_\_\_\_, California on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Father's Name printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WEST HILLS HOME SCHOOL GROUP STATEMENT OF FAITH / CORE BELIEFS

West Hills is a church with multiple campuses founded upon a number of 'core beliefs' based on the clear teaching of the Bible. 'Core beliefs' are beliefs which are foundational to who we are and inform what we do as a church. Core beliefs are sometimes referred to as 'essential beliefs' because they are the foundation of the Christian faith. Further, they are essential because unless a person affirms these truths wholeheartedly they cannot become a *member* of the West Hills Community, cannot teach and cannot hold leadership on any of our campuses.

We realize however, that as individuals seek to unite with the West Hills family they do so at different levels of spiritual maturity. Part of our *membership* process is therefore designed to make sure that these truths are understood by anyone seeking to unite with West Hills so that all who trust Jesus Christ alone for life and salvation may freely participate in our fellowship regardless of their level of maturity in the faith.

We believe **the Bible**, consisting of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, are God's complete special revelation to mankind, were given by inspiration of God, are entirely inerrant in the original autographs, and are authoritative and sufficient, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

We believe in **one Supreme God**, who exists as three persons, the Father, the Son or Word, and the Holy Spirit. All three are co-equal and co-essential (of the same essence) and yet the three are one. This doctrine of the Trinity is the foundation of our entire communion with God and our dependence on Him. The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding, and is infinite, eternal and unchangeable in being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth. This same God created the heavens and the earth and surrounding universe, by the eternal Word through the eternal Spirit, and all things in it {in the space of six days}, for the manifestation of His eternal power and glory. This creation was very good.

We believe that **Jesus Christ** is the second person of the Godhead, the eternal Word of God who became flesh and as such is fully God and fully man. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, substitutionary death on the cross, bodily resurrection, ascension, His intercessory work for believers and His bodily return with power and great glory.

We believe the eternal **Holy Spirit** is the third person of the Godhead, who reveals Christ, convicts the world of sin, regenerates for salvation and seals those who place faith in Christ into the body of Christ until the day of redemption. The Holy Spirit enables Jesus' followers to understand the Scriptures, sanctifies them, guides them to maturity in Christ, gives guidance for life, comforts them, empowers them for service, and bears witness in the hearts of true believers that they are children of God.

We believe **man, both male and female** were created in the image and likeness of God, are equal in dignity, worth and value before God, were given different roles and were originally righteous. Tempted by Satan, however, both Eve and Adam rebelled against God, fell from their state of righteousness and as a result plunged both themselves and the whole human race into ruin, sin and death. As a result of sin's entrance, man retains God's image and likeness, although it is marred by sin and death, since all people are sinners from birth and also by choice. All people are therefore under the judgment of God and thus have no ability to save themselves from their sins.

We believe **salvation** from sin, death and judgment is a free gift from God, through the gospel of Christ, and is received by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ's substitutionary death and resurrection, apart from works. This salvation restores fellowship with God. Further, all who have been born again by God's Spirit, with the result that they have trusted Christ for salvation, will persevere in faith in Christ until they die or Jesus returns, whichever comes first.

We believe the **universal body of Christ** is the called out multitude of believers from every tribe, language group, kindred group and nation who have been, are or shall be saved in and by Christ. The earthly expression of the Body of Christ is seen in the **local church**, which is a community of people who confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and who, in obedience to Scripture, are organized under qualified leadership, gather for preaching and worship, observe the Biblical

sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, love God and others, are unified by the Holy Spirit, are disciplined for holiness and who scatter to serve others in the name of Christ. This service consists of their bearing witness to the salvation of Christ in their own local community, in word and deed, for God's glory and their joy.

We believe **baptism** and the **Lord's Supper** are sacraments instituted by Jesus Christ to be observed by His church until Jesus returns.

We believe that **after death**, people's bodies return to dust and see corruption and their souls, which neither die nor sleep, continue on consciously forever. The souls of **the righteous** are received into Christ's presence in paradise, while the souls of **the unrighteous** are cast into Hades until the final judgment.

We believe that **Jesus Christ will return bodily**, with power and great glory as He promised, to bring vengeance on His enemies and to establish His eternal kingdom. Further, at Jesus' return, both the righteous and the unrighteous dead will be raised physically from the dead, the righteous to be with Christ forever and the unrighteous to be separated from Him forever. No one knows the time when these events will take place.

We believe that **all people will stand before Jesus Christ for a final judgment**, after which they will be rewarded according to what they have done in the body, whether good or evil. Those who are **righteous** through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ will go into everlasting life in the presence of the Lord, with everlasting joy and reward; The **unrighteous** will be cast into everlasting fire, where they will be tormented forever as punishment for their sins and their rebellion against God, as will the apostate angels and Satan himself.

This statement explains the core beliefs of the West Hills Community. For a more detailed statement of belief, we stand in agreement with the foundational documents of The Gospel Coalition, which may be viewed at <http://thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional/>.

\*\*\*\* Please sign the form on the next page and return it with your membership application.

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We are in agreement with the West Hills Home School Group's Statement of Faith.

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Father Date

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Mother Date

Please complete the West Hills Home School Group Application, Agreement and Release From Liability form, and the Statement of Faith (signature page only), and return them to:

West Hills Community Church  
16695 DeWitt Ave., Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
Attn: Homeschool Registrar