

MINISTRY

Sunday

- 09:00 **Kids for Christ Club** for pre-scholars and up to teenagers.
- 10:00 **Morning worship service.**
- 18:30 Used for leadership training and special courses.

Tuesday

- 19:00 Visitation by Church team (Target group) and monthly deacon's meeting.

Wednesday

- 19:00 Cell group meetings (Various homes.)

Thursday

- 17:00 Chinese Bible study at Hong Ning old age home.
- 19:00 Worship Team Practice and Prayers

Friday

- 19:00 Youth meeting

Saturday

- 07:30 Prayer meeting at the church.

*The Pastor is available for counseling or visitation upon request.
Please phone him on (011) 680-7294 or 072- 341-3148.*

Please feel free to visit us at
www.sbc.org.za
Email: sbc@sbc.org.za

Welcome to

SOUTHDALE BAPTIST CHURCH



INFORMATION PACK

Background

Southdale Baptist Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary in April 2004. It all began as a lunchtime Bible study group for students that met in the lounge of the Chinese School in Doornfontein. An Afrikaans teacher, Mrs. Rabie, was instrumental in this humble beginning and a number of young Chinese people came to know the Lord. Mr. and Mrs. Putney then were involved and soon the group needed to move to a bigger venue. The Central Baptist Church in Joubert Park very kindly gave them the use of their church hall.

The Chinese Baptist Church was constituted in 1954 and the Rev Arthur Song became its first pastor in 1963. The present building was bought from the Afrikaans Baptist Church in 1975. Succeeding pastors have been, the Revs. Harry Campbell, John Longstaff, Nigel D'Aubrey and Eugene Wiseman. The Rev. Graeme Anderson is the present Pastor. The Church acknowledges the invaluable assistance of Moderators when without a Pastor, especially the Rev. Dr. Chris Parnell and the Rev. Paul Jones.

The Name of the Church changed in 1979 to its present name. This was necessitated because English became used more frequently than Cantonese and other nationalities began attending the Church. New immigrants from Taiwan began identifying with the Chinese community but due to their limited grasp of English, eventually moved to Edenvale where a new Church was started and Mandarin is still the language medium.

If you want to identify with Southdale Baptist Church, we would encourage responsibility in these areas.

- A commitment to the Church, its leaders, its people and its ministry.
- Attendance of worship services, to come under the Word of God.
- Participation in a mid-week cell group.
- Prayerful support of the ministry of the Church.
- Financial stewardship and giving to the work of the Lord through the Church.
- Support and attendance of Church business and decision-making meetings.
- The use of spiritual gifts in the life of the Church.
- A willingness to serve rather than to be served. Body life takes place where members minister to and care for one another.
- Prayerful and financial concern in the area of Missions.

If you would like to know more about being a member, please ask for our Constitution and Church Covenant. These documents include our statement of belief and what Baptists stand for. Classes will be arranged for those applying for membership.

6. *Do you accept the Bible to be the full and final authority in all matters of faith and conduct?*

7. *Do you see and accept the necessity as a Christian to live a holy life? (1 Thess. 5 v 22; James 4 v 4; 1 John 2 v 15-17.)*

8. *Have you read and are you prepared to abide by the Covenant, Constitution and By-Laws of the Church?*

_____ (A copy of these will be given to you.)

9. *Are you engaged in any particular Christian work? If so, please give details.*

10. *Are you willing to undertake some form of ministry in connection with the Church in an area you feel God has gifted you? (Please indicate what that is if you know.)*

11. *Do you accept the principle of supporting the Church through tithes and freewill offerings?* _____

Name _____

Date _____

Signature _____

“I would like to know more about joining the Church.”

After your conversion (becoming a Christian) and your confession of faith through baptism, making a commitment to the local Church is the next most important step you need to take.

What are some of the benefits of this?

- You have a sense of belonging.
- You openly identify with God’s people.
- You strengthen the “Body” and encourage it.
- You find a place to serve God with your abilities.
- You can praise and worship with God’s people.
- You come under the instruction of God’s Word.
- You have opportunities to care and to be cared for.

The Bible speaks of the Church in several unique ways.

1. A Bride. (*Ephesians 5 v 25, Revelations 12 v 2.*) This tells us that Jesus has a love relationship with the church.
2. A family. (*Ephesians 2 v 19*) Here we have the idea of support, care and a sense of belonging.
3. A building. (*Ephesians 2 v 21 and 1 Peter 2 v4.*) Every member fits together and there is unity.
4. A body. (*1 Corinthians 12 v 13-27*) This speaks of interdependence and movement. Every part of the body is important to the whole.

SOUTHDALE BAPTIST CHURCH

Application for membership

Please fill in the following information in block letters and hand to the Pastor or one of the Church leaders.

Personal details.

SURNAME: _____

FIRST NAMES: _____

MARITAL STATUS: (Please tick ✓)

Single Married Widow/er

Separated Divorced Re-married

Age. 13-18 19-30 31-45 46-60 61+

Birthday: Day _____ Month _____

Postal address: _____

Home address: _____

Tel (h) _____ **(w)** _____

Cell _____ **Email:** _____

Occupation: _____

Are there any other details you would like to share about yourself and background?

Your Spiritual journey.

1. *Have you accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour and do you acknowledge Him to be the Son of God?*

_____ (John 1 v 12; Romans 10 v 9&10)

2. *Can you say when and where you received Christ? If so give brief particulars. If not, please say how you came to acknowledge of salvation.*

3. *Have you been baptized by immersion?* _____

If so, please say when, where and by whom.

4. *Do you wish to be baptized?* _____
(Acts 2 v 38-41; Romans 6 v 1-7.)

5. *Are you in membership with any other Church? If so, please give particulars and say why you wish to change.*

