

Triple Tree Ministries Charter

Purpose: To record for posterity and future reference those things about the Triple Tree Ministries (TTM) Motorcycle Ministry which make it unique and effective; to maintain the spirit and intentions of the original ministry; to serve as a written guide of where we started, how to remain rooted in where we are and to build goals for where we are going so we may always remain focused to God and never forget that He is the reason for this ministry.

We serve God: TTM is a ministry that serves the God of the Holy Bible, the only God, the Creator of the universe, the Savior and Redeemer of mankind. We serve no other purpose, person, philosophy, thing, government or power. Our dedication is solely directed to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We ride motorcycles: TTM is a ministry that uses the motorcycle as a media to reach out to others. Motorcycling is the integral part of our physical lives which brings us to those we are called upon to minister to, and indeed is the thing that opens the door between our calling and the rest of the world. We support motorcycling in its many forms, the culture which has developed around it and the riders who are out on the road.

We support our government: While TTM is not politically oriented or affiliated, we do acknowledge our allegiance to our country. We encourage participation in government and civic duty, prayer and support for our leaders. TTM will not encourage any actions which are contrary to the laws of government, except where those laws are in direct opposition to the laws of God. While respecting the laws of our nation, state and local municipality, no individual with arrest or prosecutorial powers will be offered membership in the 777 Crew.

We support our families: TTM is a ministry which supports the God ordained structure which is the basic family unit. We firmly acknowledge that the priority for our lives must first include our spouse and children and that they are our primary ministry. TTM will not support any cause or movement which works to destroy the Biblically based family unit, which is marriage between a man and woman. We also strongly support the principle that children need as much time with loving parents as possible in order to grow up as Godly citizens. This statement in no way is to detract from the acknowledgment of those specially gifted individuals who are able to remain single and serve God fully in this manner.

We support the Christian Church: TTM supports the local, historic, Christian church. TTM in and of itself provides a haven of fellowship and pastoral leadership through the Triple Tree Biker Church ministry. TTM strongly encourages those we reach out to as well as the membership of the 777 Crew to find a home church for deeper fellowship, accountability and edification. Hebrews 10:24-25
Certain churches do not qualify for membership^a

We support other motorcycle ministries: TTM supports all other valid Christian motorcycle ministries and their efforts in bringing the lost into the kingdom. TTM will not act in any way which obstructs, injures or damages the testimony or work of any other motorcycle ministry. We are on the same side. This is not to say that we necessarily agree with every other ministry or support their activities. These things must be tested by the Word of God.

We are not in competition with anyone: TTM will not compete with any other motorcycle ministry, motorcycle club, church or organization for members, turf, territories, property, status or recognition. TTM, our purpose, mission and materials have been carefully planned so as not to antagonize other groups. For this reason, no TTM member may display the initials "M/C" along with their back patch, nor wear a patch which would indicate a region or territory.

We are not a for-profit venture: Free will donations towards the ministry are gladly accepted, however TTM reserves the right to refuse donations from persons or organizations which do not agree with our principles.

We are a free ministry: In keeping with our Lord's example, TTM will not charge any dues or levies in order for a person to participate. In addition, solicitation for any such funds is prohibited. TTM does, however, reserve the right to sell products and/or services in exchange for fair compensation which is to be used to further the ministry. TTM reserves the right to charge an initial processing fee to all new 777 Crew members upon approval as a full member. Any new member's inability to pay this processing fee will not negatively affect the membership status of that full member. TTM also reserves the right to charge reasonable fees for materials, reservations, fuel, insurance, etc. which are necessary for special events. Membership will not be contingent on the ownership of any salable materials.

We display "colors": As is characteristic of this type of ministry, TTM produces a back patch, front chest patch and other materials with our logo on it. These materials are made available to members in good standing. TTM retains the right to charge a production fee for these materials. TTM retains ownership of all back, arm, jacket/vest patches and any materials/products that contain the TTM logo and/or the term "777 Crew." No object, patch, shirt or other product bearing our logo or the term "777 Crew" can be sold or distributed to a non-member of the 777 Crew, other than items specifically designed as "support" items. Members who are not in good standing (i.e. fallen away, resigned, in violation of any membership requirements, etc.) can not purchase or display 777 Crew membership materials.

We have no prospect process: In TTM, we do not have a prospect stage for new 777 Crew members. TTM does have a "hang-around" period so we can get to know applicants, applicants can get to know those in the chapter and so new applicants can gain a full understanding of the ministry of TTM. At the end of this time a recommendation will be made by the TTM Elder and 777 Crew Elder to the full membership regarding making a "hang-around" a full member. During that time applicants may wear TTM Support gear. A new approved member may wear their back patch and all TTM t-shirts and other gear.

We will not discriminate: TTM accepts all people regardless of the following circumstances: race, creed, color, sex, political affiliation, Christian church denomination*, type or brand of motorcycle**, dress code or hair style. TTM does, however, reserve the right to refuse membership based on: non-Christian church membership (i.e. Jehovah's Witness, Mormon, Muslim, etc.), sin as described in our application and/or membership requirements or other issues related to a person's character, morals or ethics. Some professions could be considered a "conflict of interest." *Note: *Controversial, humanistic & non-historic denominations may not qualify. This includes, but is not limited to: Catholic, legalistic churches, some Churches of Christ, United Pentecostal Church, excesses in the Word of Faith Movement, and Episcopal Churches, etc.* **Note: *For the purpose of definition motor-scooters, mopeds, motorized bicycles and non-street legal dirt bikes do not qualify for 777 Crew membership.*

We support each member's right to vote, as they feel led by God to do so: TTM is completely non-political in nature and does not endorse any political agenda, philosophy or candidate. We affirm each member's right to vote and participate individually in local, state or federal political processes; TTM must, however, remain completely neutral in these regards. We believe that churches and ministries as groups should stay out of government and that by the same token the government should stay out of the issues concerning the Christian faith.

We support the responsibility of each member for their own actions: TTM can not and will not be held responsible or liable, either directly, indirectly or consequentially, for the actions of individuals. Each individual is responsible for his/her own actions and the repercussions that result from those actions. This particularly applies to members who backslide, break laws, take actions which can bring liability or harm to TTM and its members or who are involved in accidents. Motorcycle riding is by its very nature more risky than other forms of transportation and each rider upon joining TTM must acknowledge that ultimately they alone are responsible for their own safety - not TTM, or any other TTM member. TTM is committed to a safe motorcycling and ministry experience and every precaution will be taken to insure this. Ultimately, however, each individual must acknowledge their own limitations and responsibility in this endeavor.

We do not support by-laws, tri-laws, or "hype": We are an Elder based motorcycle ministry, thus we look to the board of Elders for leadership and teaching. We believe each member of the body of Christ needs the encouragement and loving accountability of others to be faithful to Christ and to become more like Christ. This kind of Christian discipline is best experienced in settings of trust, open sharing and prayer. In this way we "spur one another on to love and good deeds." (Hebrews 10:24 NIV)

Acts 18:24-28; Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 10:24, 25; 2 Timothy 2:24-26

^a(*Controversial, humanistic, Unitarian & non-historic denominations do not qualify. This would include but not be limited to: Legalistic churches, some United Churches of Christ, United Pentecostal Churches, Word of Faith Movement, Episcopal Churches, Prosperity Gospel etc... Do not qualify for membership.*)