

**Second Harvest Food Bank
Of Northeast Tennessee**

A member of



Church Qualifier Form

The Internal Revenue Service uses 14 characteristics to determine whether an organization qualifies as a church. In accordance with this provision, Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee has established a policy which requires that an organization which functions as an independent, unincorporated church must certify that at least 9 of these Characteristics are evidenced by their program. The characteristics are:

Check all that Apply

- _____ 1. A distinct legal existence.
- _____ 2. A recognized creed and form of worship.
- _____ 3. A definite and distinct ecclesiastical government.
- _____ 4. A formal code of doctrine and discipline.
- _____ 5. A membership not associated with any other church or denomination.
- _____ 6. A distinct religious history.
- _____ 7. A complete organization of ordained ministers ministering to their congregations.
- _____ 8. Ordained ministers elected after completing prescribed courses of study.
- _____ 9. A literature of its own.
- _____ 10. Established places of worship.
- _____ 11. Regular congregations.
- _____ 12. Regular religious services.
- _____ 13. Sunday Schools for religious instruction of the young.
- _____ 14. Schools for the preparation of its ministers.

As duly authorized officers of _____ (church name)
we certify that this organization meets the requirements indicated for identification as a church.

Please make sure that 3 different people from your church sign these spaces other than the pastor/clergy in charge. (Preferably deacons, elders, etc.)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____