

What does it all mean?

Every member of St. Peter's United Methodist Church has committed to support this church with his or her prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. But what does this really mean?

Prayers

- Members are encouraged to spend time praying and studying the Scripture daily.

Presence

- Members are encouraged to be in worship every Sunday. When out of town, members are asked to attend a worship service there.
- Members are also encouraged to get involved in a small group, such as a Sunday School class or a mid-week Bible Study group. This is essential to one's spiritual growth, sense of "belonging" and fellowship.

Gifts

- The tithe (10% of all income) is the biblical standard of giving to the church. Members are encouraged to tithe or work each year incrementally toward the tithe.
- Because monetary gifts are not all we have to offer God, members are also encouraged to give of their time, talents, and spiritual gifts to the life and ministry of the church. Classes are offered periodically to assist with this commitment.

Service

- Members are encouraged to be involved in at least one service or mission project every year. This may be one of the many mission projects organized by the church, volunteer work at the church, or volunteer work at the institution of your choice.

Witness

- Members are encouraged to share the good news of the gospel with others through words and actions that witness to the transforming power of Christ.

Welcome to St. Peter's United Methodist Church!

Connecting the World with God's Love

We invite you to become a part of our church family. Membership is open to all who profess their faith in Christ and commit to uphold St. Peter's United Methodist Church with their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Ways to join:

Baptism and profession of faith—For those who have never been baptized as a Christian and are making their first public profession of faith in Christ.

Profession of faith—For those who have been baptized previously, but have never publicly professed their faith. Also, for those who have been baptized, but are no longer members of a church.

Transfer from another denomination—We acknowledge baptisms administered by other Christian denominations. If you are currently a member of a church of another denomination, we will contact your previous church to transfer your membership to St. Peter's.

Transfer from another United Methodist Church—We will contact your previous United Methodist Church and transfer your membership to St. Peter's.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church*



st. peter's
United Methodist Church

Joining St. Peter's A Guide for the Inquiring

Rev. Don Smith,
Senior Pastor

20775 Kingsland Blvd.
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(281) 492-8031
www.stpkaty.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Do I have to talk to someone before I join?

A. Yes, Simply call the church office at (281) 492-8031 and ask for our Pastor of Welcoming Ministries Rev. Lorna Bradley (ext. 316), or contact her by e-mail at lbradley@stpkaty.org. You may also indicate your desire to join on the attendance registration form or by filling out a Joining St. Peter's card found in the pews and dropping it in the offering plate. We will contact you with more information.

Q. Do I have to take a class to join?

A. Yes. On the second Sunday of each month we host Coffee with the Pastors. This reception is for guests who are thinking of membership. It is an opportunity to learn more about St. Peter's and meet with our pastors. Please contact our Pastor of Welcoming Ministries Rev. Lorna Bradley or indicate your desire to join on the registration form, along with your phone number, and we will contact you with information about the next Coffee with the Pastors.

Q. Do I have to be re-baptized?

A. No. The United Methodist Church acknowledges baptisms administered by any Christian church.

Q. What about my child(ren)?

A. Children are an important part of St. Peter's. When you join, your child is added to our membership roll at your request. He or she will become a full, professing member when he or she goes through confirmation in the sixth grade. Confirmation is an experience through which your child is instructed in the Christian faith and given an opportunity to publicly profess his or her own faith in Christ.

Q. What if my child hasn't been baptized?

A. If your child is an infant, we will gladly schedule a baptism during a Sunday morning service. Also, you may choose to wait until he or she goes through confirmation, and the sacrament of baptism can be administered then.

Q. What if my child is older than sixth grade and has not been through confirmation?

A. Junior high students who did not have the opportunity to go through confirmation during sixth grade are also invited to participate in the confirmation class.

Q. What if I haven't been baptized?

A. Every year St. Peter's receives many adult members by profession of faith and baptism. We will work with you to schedule your baptism at a time when family and friends can celebrate your decision with you.

Q. I have decided to join. What's next?

A. Great! You've thought it through carefully and made the decision, so the hard part is over. Please contact Rev. Lorna Bradley and let her know of your decision. If you have not yet attended Coffee with the Pastors, please make plans to do so soon so that we can welcome you into membership.

Q. Do I have to join in front of the congregation?

A. We prefer that you do. However, we recognize that coming up front is easier for some people than others. If you are uncomfortable coming up front, please let us know.

Q. Any other questions?

A. Please contact our Minister of Evangelism Rev. Lorna Bradley at (281) 492-8031, ext. 316, or lbradley@stpkaty.org.

Are you:

- Thinking about membership?
- Interested in learning more about St. Peter's?
- Curious about what United Methodists believe?
- Interested in meeting the clergy of the church?

If so, you are invited to attend

Coffee with the Pastors Second Sundays at 7 p.m.

This one hour and fifteen minute gathering is designed to help you learn more about St. Peter's United Methodist Church. You must attend Coffee with the Pastors prior to joining the church, though attending does not obligate you to join.

Childcare is available upon request.