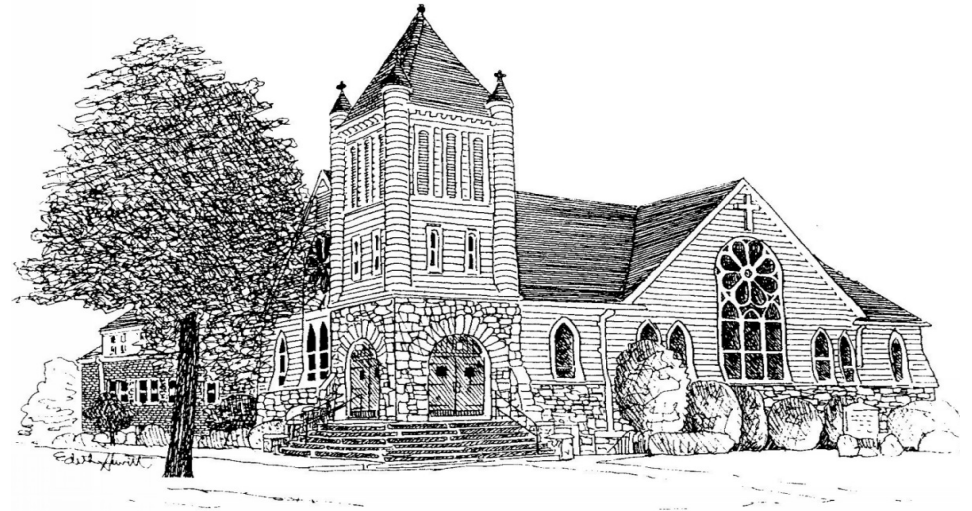


St. Paul's Church Council 2011

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ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Becoming a Member

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

JOINING ST. PAUL'S UCC CHURCH

*“No matter who you are,
or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here!”*

That’s what we believe! And that means there is always room for you here, at St. Paul’s.

Our church, its services and its sacraments are open to everyone; members and non-members alike.

You don’t need to join St. Paul’s to worship and share fellowship with us. But, if you are interested, joining St. Paul’s is extremely easy.

Here’s all you need to do:

- Confirm that you have been baptized,
- Let the Pastor or a Council member (see back page) know you are interested,
- And, respond to the questions regarding the reaffirmation of your faith (shown on the facing page) during a church service.

THAT’S IT !

What if you were never baptized? We can help with that too. Again, just let the Pastor, or a Council member, know and we will help you through the process.

What must you do once you are a member? That’s easy too.

Members are expected to be faithful to all duties essential to Christian life, to attend services of the church, to help support its benevolences, to share in its organized work, and to seek diligently the spiritual welfare of the church and the winning of others to Christ.

How active you are is totally up to you!

Affirmation of Faith for New Members of St. Paul’s UCC

Pastor/Leader: We invite those who wish to affirm their faith and join St. Paul’s Church to come forward at this time. (leader will ask candidates for their first names)

Friends in Christ, we are all received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. Those who stand before you now have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their faith and join the St. Paul’s congregation.

Do you (first name) desire to affirm your faith and join the family of Christ and the congregation of St. Paul’s church?

Candidate: “I Do”

Pastor/Leader: Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Candidate: “I Do”

Pastor/Leader: Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Candidate: “I Do”

Pastor/Leader: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Candidate: “I promise, with the help of God”

Pastor/Leader: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ’s presence and furthering Christ’s mission in all the world?

Candidate: “I promise, with the help of God”

Pastor/Leader: Now, let us, the members of St. Paul’s Church, express our welcome to these new members and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ by responding “I do” to these questions:

Do you welcome these new members into our church family?

And, do you promise them our friendship and prayers?

Now, in the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of St. Paul’s Church, I welcome you to our family of faith and invite the congregation to come forward and greet our new members.