

Application for Church Membership
First United Methodist Church

414 East High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464

Title (Circle One): Mr. Mrs. Miss. Ms. Dr. Rev. Other.

Name as desired on church records:.....

Preferred Name or Nickname:.....

Address in full:.....

.....

Phone (Home). (Business).

If your phone number is unlisted and you would prefer it not be printed in church directories, please check here.

Second or Vacation Address:.....

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Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year).

Marital Status (Circle One) Single Married Divorced Separated Widow(er)

Anniversary Date (Month/Day/Year)..

Spouse's Name.....

Place of marriage.

Date of birth of your spouse (Month/Day/Year).

Emergency Contact. Phone.

Occupation:.....

Employer:.....

Highest education attained.....

College (if any).

When graduated?..... Degree.....

Number of Children at home. (Please complete information below)

Name: Birth date (Month/Day/Year) Year in School

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Number of Children away from home. (Please complete information below)

Name: Birth date (Month/Day/Year) College?

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Have you been baptized? Date:

By Whom? By Whom?

Where?

Your present church, if any.

Address of Church and Phone.

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Current Pastor (If known).

Offices held or services rendered in previous churches (if any).

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When do you desire to join.

Who or what was the greatest influence in your deciding to become a member of this church?

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A Few Words About Membership

The act of joining a particular congregation of the United Methodist Church is part of the larger Baptismal Covenant Service, which can be found in our United Methodist Hymnal (pp. 32-39). As such, membership in a United Methodist Church presupposes and entails the following:

- ▶ that the person joining has been baptised into the Christian faith, and that he or she has made a renunciation of sin and profession of faith. The following questions are asked of all baptismal candidates or their parents and sponsors, and any one wishing to join the United Methodist Church should be able to answer them affirmatively:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to to people of all ages, nations, and races?

According to the grace given to you, will you remain a faithful member of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representative in the world?

Also baptismal candidates and/or their parents and sponsors are asked to profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament. This is done by reciting the Apostles' Creed, which is reprinted in the UMC Hymnal on page 35.

- ▶ that the person joining will indicate their support of the mission and ministries of both the United Methodist Church and the local congregation by answering affirmatively and living out the following questions:

As a member of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

As a member of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service?

Please note that the practical implications of answering positively to the last question are that the new member:

- ▶ will keep First United Methodist Church in his or her prayers,
- ▶ will attend worship, fellowship and other activities of the church (such as Christian Education opportunities, small group fellowships, etc. . .) on a regular basis,
- ▶ will uphold the work of the church through their financial support, and
- ▶ will give of their time and energy to engage in ministry both in and through the church to the surrounding community and world.

After prayerful consideration, I desire to join First United Methodist Church. I understand the implications of this decision and am willing to do all that I can to fulfill the membership covenant into which I will enter.

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Signature of the Pastor:.....

Date:.....