

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?



Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) welcomes all persons who respond in trust to God's grace in Jesus Christ and who desire to become part of the membership and ministry of WPC. Westminster affirms and accepts each person as created with a unique combination of qualities: heritage, color, talents, sexual orientation, abilities, history and diverse interests.

If you are new to Rehoboth, or you do not yet have a church home here, or if you are seeking a new church home, ***our doors and our faith community are open to you.*** If you would like the Pastor or one of our Elders to contact you concerning church membership, you may call the church office at (302) 227-2109 or email us at rehobothwpc20@gmail.com, or [fill out the online form](#).

It is our hope that through WPC, you will find a family of believers where you can grow in your faith, discover a place where you can belong, and use your gifts to the glory of God.

If you are considering membership here at WPC or are simply curious about what that might mean, please read on!

1) HOW TO JOIN WPC

Several times a year WPC offers classes for new and prospective members. Usually offered on Saturday mornings, these classes led by the Pastor, and in partnership with lay leadership, begin with a conversation about our individual experiences of grace and with exploring our faith roots. Then we move onto consider your current needs and interests for spiritual growth. Our individual life and faith experiences are viewed through the "lens" of the Presbyterian Church's traditions, beliefs and practices. The format of the class includes ample time for

conversation, discussion and questions and (hopefully!) answers. The topics include:

- A discussion of your faith journey and what led you here.
- Why and how we worship. * The sacraments
- The mission, vision, and ministries of WPC.
- Presbyterian beliefs, form of government and current issues in the PC(USA) and at Westminster.
- The history of the Presbyterian Church and the history of WPC.
- Explore the purpose of membership as providing mutual support in spiritual growth and practice.

*We observe two Sacraments: As the gathered people of God, we celebrate the sacraments of communion and baptism. We baptize adults who make their own profession of faith, as well as infants and children brought by their parents who make an affirmation of faith on their behalf.

This class should be of interest to prospective and new members of Westminster as well as to established WPC members who want to reflect on their faith and discipleship, and who desire to welcome and get acquainted with some of the newest participants in the Westminster church community.

For more information about Westminster and our denomination, PC(USA), go to <https://www.westminster-rehoboth.org>. Also, while on our website check our denomination's website <https://www.pcusa.org/> by going to the menu bar, *About Us*, and scrolling down to PC(USA) Church.

Also, you can fill out the form below if you are interested in attending the next breakfast with the Pastor.

2) BECOMING A MEMBER

The only pre-requisite for joining any PC(USA) congregation is affirming faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

Joining a church family is a very important and personal life event. The Pastor, Staff and Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church want to help you in making this commitment.

Even if you are not sure about membership, you are welcome to come and learn more about the church. Please let us know if we can assist you. Below are the various ways by which you might join:

Certificate of Transfer

Persons who have made a public profession of faith and were active members in a particular church may be received by the Session upon receipt of a certificate of transfer from the church in which they have most recently been members. We will request the transfer of your “certificate of membership” from your current church.

Reaffirmation of Faith

Perhaps you have not been an active member of a church for a while and are unable to secure a certificate of transfer. If so, you may join by “reaffirmation of faith.” You are asked to “reaffirm” the vows you first affirmed when you joined a church by answering three questions. See below.

Profession of Faith

Perhaps you have never joined a church before. If not, you would be given the opportunity to join by “professing” the Christian Faith. Membership also includes the sacrament of Baptism. Anyone who has not yet been baptized, may receive the sacrament of Baptism at the time they are joining the church. We accept all previous Christian baptisms.

After completing the New Members gathering, you will be asked the qualifying questions of membership should you decide to join. Session will enthusiastically affirm your decision to join. Afterwards, the new members are introduced and welcomed by the congregation during worship.

Affiliated Member

Individuals may also choose to join as an Affiliate Member, meant for those in Rehoboth Beach/Lewes on a short-term basis who are active church members elsewhere. Especially appropriate for college students, or seasonal visitors, it carries all the privileges of active membership except the right to vote in congregational meetings and hold church office.

The Qualifying Questions

- Do you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
- Do you promise to be faithful and obey to the best of your abilities Christ's word?
- Will you bring to this ministry at Westminster Presbyterian Church of Rehoboth Beach the talents and gifts God has given you and commit yourself to growing toward spiritual maturity and witness not only by your words, but by your actions?

Concluding Prayer

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. (Romans 12:4-5, NIV)

Source: Faith Formation

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