

What Does It Mean to Join Central United Methodist Church?

WE BELIEVE THAT THE "BODY" OF CHRIST WORKS BEST WHEN WE ARE UNITED TOGETHER (I CORINTHIANS 12). THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO CHRIST AND LIVE IT OUT IN THE CHURCH.

There are several ways to join the church:

- **Profession of Faith:** This is done when the individual has no prior church membership. This is a "new" Christian and answers the following questions and is baptized if he/she has not already been baptized.

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? I do.

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

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 people of all ages, nations, and races? I do.

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? I will.

**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? I will.*

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

- **Reaffirmation of Faith:** This is done when the individual has been away from membership in the church for a long time or simply doesn't know where the church membership is. The person answers the same questions as those joining by Profession of Faith.
- **Transfer from Another Denomination:** This is done when a person is a member of another denomination. We write that church and let them know of the individual's desire to unite with Central. The person answers the two questions* listed at the top of this section.
- **Transfer from Another United Methodist Church:** This is done when a person is a member of another United Church. We write that church and let them know the individual's desire to unite with Central. The person answers the following question:

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

- **Associate Membership:** This is done when a person desires to remain a member of his/her "home church" of another denomination in another community, but for what ever reason is living in our area.
- **Affiliate Membership:** This is done when a person desires to remain a member of his/her United Methodist "home church" in another community, but for whatever reason is living in our area.

Questions? Desire more information? Direct your question to www.centralumccanton.org, mail your question to Central United Methodist Church, 34 Church Street, Canton, NC 28716, or call 828-648-7270.