

## Membership at First Community



### Active Membership

Membership at First Community is a uniquely personal, spiritual experience. Through membership, active worship attendance, and learning, you will enhance the richness of your own spiritual journey. You will gain the strength that comes when you know you are not alone, and the courage to continue your journey of faith in the world. Your efforts for the common good will multiply by joining hands and hearts with others. Belonging means giving and receiving. It means supporting God's mission with your time, talent, and financial resources. Membership enriches your life as you receive God's love and give of yourself in response.

### Associate Membership

Associate members have the same benefits and responsibilities as members. Associates retain membership in two congregations (no letter of transfer will be sent).

## Membership Covenant

This covenant between members and Church leadership creates and clarifies mutual promises, commitments, and responsibilities.

The First Community Leadership (the Governing Board, staff, councils, and committees) covenants to:

- Welcome all, wherever they are on their faith journey.
- Treat everyone with the same unconditional love, acceptance, and respect that Jesus gave to all people.
- Provide members and their families age-appropriate opportunities for worship, education, study, fellowship, and celebration in ways that broaden spiritual understanding and help manifest God's presence throughout their lives.
- Provide spiritual and emotional support in times of need.
- Provide opportunities for members to live their faith through service and mission and show appreciation for their dedication.
- Be good stewards by carrying out these commitments within available resources.



As a member of First Community, I covenant to:

- Be faithful in attending worship.
- Enhance my spiritual journey through study, prayer, and action.
- Seek daily to live and act in ways that help make Christ's example of God's love for all people real.
- Give of my time and talent by participating in missions, groups, or projects that inspire me.
- Invite and welcome others to worship services and other programs.
- Prayerfully commit my financial resources, as I am able, to help carry out the work of the Church, including making and fulfilling my annual pledge or contribute financially to the Church's operating campaign.

*Leadership roles on Church boards, councils, and committees require all requirements of the member covenant to be met.*

## What Membership Means

- Voting privileges on congregational issues brought to a vote.
- The opportunity to attend and speak at congregational meetings.
- The opportunity to serve on boards and councils.
- Receive all church-wide communication at no charge.
- Reduced fees for the use of the church facilities for events and special services, i.e. weddings and memorial services.
- Advanced opportunity to register and exemption from paying the non-member participation fee for Akita.
- Preferential registration for openings in the First Community Preschool and the Mary Evans Child Development Center.

## Change of Membership

Members can request a transfer of membership to another congregation or email [kglaser@FCchurch.com](mailto:kglaser@FCchurch.com) to terminate their membership. Members who do not engage with the church for more than three years will be considered inactive and their accounts will be archived.