



We are a servant church where we experience God's grace, live like Jesus, and participate in God's grace with our neighbors.

Living Our Faith: A Guide to Membership at McPherson First United Methodist Church

Membership Commitments - Summary

Members of McPherson First United Methodist Church commit to participating in five key areas of church life:

- **Prayers:** Develop a regular prayer life, both personal and with the church community, to strengthen our connection with God and support others.
- **Presence:** Participate regularly in worship services and church activities, whether in-person or online, to grow spiritually and build relationships.
- **Gifts:** Practice financial stewardship through regular giving to support the church's mission and ministry.
- **Service:** Use your God-given gifts to serve in church ministries and community outreach.
- **Witness:** Share your faith journey through words and actions, welcoming others to experience God's love through our church community.

These commitments aren't rigid rules but pathways for growing in faith together. Each person's journey is unique, and we support one another as we grow in these practices.



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Our Membership Commitments - Full

Everyone is welcome at McPherson First United Methodist Church as we grow in faith together. When people choose to become members of the church, they answer this question: "Will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?" When we say "I will," we commit to growing in faith through five key ways: how we pray, show up, give, serve, and share our faith. These aren't strict rules - they're ways to build a meaningful life of faith. Some days we might focus more on one area than others, and that's okay. What matters is that these practices help us grow closer to God and each other. This guide shows practical ways to live out these commitments in our daily lives and as a church family.

Our Prayers: Nurturing Our Spiritual Connection

Prayer is our vital connection to God, shaping how we view the world and respond to life's challenges. Through prayer, we open ourselves to divine guidance, express gratitude, and lift up the needs of others. Regular prayer, both alone and with others, deepens our faith and strengthens our church community.

Individual Practice

- Start each day with a moment of thanksgiving and seeking God's guidance
- Keep a prayer list of concerns and celebrations for regular intercession
- Practice listening prayer during daily activities like driving or walking

Community Practice

- Participate in worship services regularly (in-person or online)
- Pray with and for others in worship and small groups
- Share and respond to prayer concerns during small group gatherings



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Our Presence: Growing Through Active Participation

Being present in the life of our church creates opportunities for spiritual growth and meaningful relationships. Whether gathering in person or connecting online, our presence matters – to God, to each other, and to our own faith journey. Through regular participation, we create a vibrant community of faith.

Individual Practice

- Attend worship services regularly
- Arrive early to greet others and prepare your heart for worship
- Stay connected through online services when unable to attend in person

Community Practice

- Participate in a small group or Bible study
- Attend church-wide events and fellowships
- Welcome and connect with visitors

Our Gifts: Practicing Stewardship

Financial giving is a spiritual practice that reflects our trust in God and commitment to building God's kingdom. When we give, we acknowledge that all we have comes from God and express our gratitude through supporting the church's mission. Growing in generosity is part of growing in faith.

Individual Practice

- Set aside a specific percentage of your income for giving
- Work toward a tithe (10%) as you are able
- Include the church in your estate planning



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Community Practice

- Contribute regularly to the church's ministry funding plan
- Support special offerings and mission projects
- Participate in capital campaigns as able

Our Service: Showing God's Love Through Action

Service is how we put our faith into action, using our God-given gifts to make a difference in our church and community. Through serving others, we follow Jesus's example and help build God's kingdom on earth. Every act of service, whether large or small, matters in God's eyes.

Individual Practice

- Identify your spiritual gifts and passions in serving
- Commit to one regular ministry role
- Look for daily opportunities to help others

Community Practice

- Serve on a ministry team
- Participate in church-wide service projects
- Support local mission partners

Our Witness: Sharing Our Faith Journey

Our faith stories have the power to encourage others and help them discover God's love. Witnessing isn't about having perfect answers or dramatic conversion stories – it's about authentically sharing how God is working in our lives. Through our words and actions, we help others see and experience God's grace.



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Individual Practice

- Share how faith guides your daily decisions
- Be open about your church involvement in conversations
- Live your values visibly in your workplace and community

Community Practice

- Invite friends and family to worship services and events
- Welcome visitors warmly
- Share positive experiences through personal and social media

These practices aren't meant to be burdensome but to help us grow in faith and strengthen our church community. Each person's journey is unique, and we support each other as we grow together in faith.