

# *Becoming a Member*

- Membership classes are scheduled for the spring and fall each year. The spring class is longer single setting class following church on Sunday. The fall class meets across three different Sundays for shorter sessions taking during the time allotted for Sunday School.
- Both spring and fall classes are taught by the pastoral staff with at least one elder encouraged to attend. Each class, in both the spring and fall will begin with a time for the members, elders present, and the pastors to briefly share their faith story. The class will cover three topics: 1) What do we believe taught by Lead Pastor Doug Ashley 2) Who we are taught by Associate Pastor Shelley Kral and 3) How do we get involved taught by Assistant Pastor Beau Sullivan. During the sessions, the class is given the five questions from the EPC Book of Order required to be affirmed before a quorum of elders.
- After the session, the class is given a period of time, typically a week, for them to reflect on the information presented in the class, especially the five questions from the Book of Order and to gather the needed administrative information . During this time, the individual seeking memberships are encouraged to seek further clarification from the pastors and elders on any questions they may have. During this time the Member Information Form needs to be completed and submit to the Church Administrator, Suzi White. Also, the church will need to receive information on the potential new elders so as to know how to properly classify their membership as Transfer, Reaffirmation of Faith, or New Affirmation of Faith.
- A Sunday is scheduled on which all those who still desire to become members can come together and affirm the five questions from the Book of Order before a quorum of elders and be introduced as new members to the congregation. The new inductees will meet with the quorum of elders at 9:00 a.m. before the worship service, and be asked to publically affirm the five questions to the elders present. Then, during the worship service, the new members are publically announced and the congregation will be given the opportunity to welcome them as new members.