

SESSION 3: *A COMMON STRATEGY*

THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A MEMBER AND MEETING WITH AN ELDER

First, take the new member classes, (online or in person.) Please make sure to complete the member profile located in your new member booklet. (Please do so even if you do not plan on joining.)

Second, contact Pastor Jon (jon@sipcijax.org or 384-4501) and ask any clarifying questions or discuss any concerns. Indicate your desire to become a member of St. Johns. If you have not been baptized, your baptism will occur at the time of the Profession of Faith. If you have been baptized, there is no need for rebaptism. Even if you are coming by transfer from another Presbyterian Church or denomination, we ask that you reaffirm your faith and make a commitment to follow the membership covenant with these simple questions:

- *Will you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ, trusting Christ for your salvation, and relying upon God's grace, will you seek to live a Christ-like life?*
- *Will you seek to develop authentic friendships within the St. Johns church family, and do you promise to protect the unity, share in responsibility, serve the ministry, and support the mission for Christ's church at St. Johns?*

Third, you will meet with several Session members to be formally received as an active member. You will be introduced and invited to briefly share your spiritual journey and how you came to trust in Jesus Christ. These meetings can be arranged on a Sunday morning or you can meet with the Session on the third Monday of each month.

Finally, after meeting with the Session, we will arrange a time for you to be introduced at one of the Sunday worship services with other new members. As a group, you will be asked the two questions on the membership covenant.

Thank you for your interest in the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ at St. Johns!

Bible References: *All scripture quotes are from the NIV unless otherwise noted. Good News (GN); The Living Bible (TLB); New International Version (NIV); Phillips Paraphrase (PH)*