



FAQ SHEET

(FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

1. How do I become a member?

“Repent and be baptized (baptize=immersed) everyone of you for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”. This is what the Apostle Peter taught in Acts 2:38. This is the beginning point of the new life. It is what Jesus described in John 3. It is what He demonstrated in Matthew 3. If you have any questions about this process, feel free to talk with our Ministers or Elders.

2. How do I get to know people?

Our Welcome Team can help you get oriented and can answer any initial questions you might have. Then you can look on the church bulletin to find a LIFE GROUP that meets near you and go to this LIFE GROUP. You will get to know people very quickly in this warm, informal setting.

3. How do I get involved in the work of the church?

Take a look at the new calendar of AREA OUTREACH BIBLE STUDIES in the lobby and choose one to attend! You can also come to the church building on Monday evenings or Friday mornings to help with our Food Pantry. If you are married, join our Marriage Fellowship Ministry. If you are single, join our Singles Fellowship Ministry. If you have children, get them involved in Bible Bowl or other fun activities with our Youth Group! Each quarter we go to the Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore. Every May, we do massive outreach together in the community at the Laurel Main Street Festival. Mark that on your calendar! In summer, we do outreach through our MISSION 1 TEAM CHALLENGE. If you do any or all of these things, you will get to know people very quickly!

4. How do I grow spiritually here?

Each quarter, we conduct MISSION 1 TRAINING sessions on a Saturday morning. This is one of the most powerful investments you can make in your spiritual development! It is all aimed on our daily learning from Jesus and being on mission with Him. The bonding that occurs in prayer time is amazing! Once a year, we conduct a BUILDING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS Class in the auditorium to help us learn how to build healthy relationships in the church. In the process, we learn a lot about ourselves, and how to become more like Jesus each day. You will also grow from the challenging preaching each Sunday, and from interaction in Life Groups.

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5. Why do you do what you do as a church?

We try very hard to “devote ourselves to the Apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, to sharing in the Lord’s Supper, and to prayer.” (Acts 2:42) We want to hold to Christ’s teaching because then we are truly His disciples. (John 8:31) Our assemblies and our overall organization are simple because we are trying to do this. All of our time together should be focused on lifting up the name of Jesus and praising God the Father from the heart. We need to “encourage each other” just as the Apostles taught (1 Thessalonians 5:11), so that the Body of Christ can be united and strong, filled with His love. The church should be a safe place of much joy and thankfulness. “Live in peace with each other...always be kind to each other...Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus...The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:13-28)

6. What is worship?

The Apostles taught that we are to worship God with our living every day. “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies and living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” (Romans 12:1-2) In John 4:23-24 Jesus said, “A time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and His worshipers must worship in spirit and truth.” He makes it clear in that same passage that worship is no longer a matter of place. Christians meeting on Sundays is a continuation of the worship of their lives throughout the week. It is special time of fellowship and collective worship that focuses on Jesus Christ, who He is and what He has done for us. This is why the Lord’s Table is at the center of our Sunday assembly.

7. What is the assembly?

The word used in the New Testament for assembly and church is the same: EKKLESIA. It simply means ‘the called’. All those that Jesus has called to follow Him (all that have “been baptized into Christ” (Romans 6) come together on the day of Jesus’ resurrection (Sunday) to remember His death and burial, and to celebrate His resurrection and ascension on High. They lift up His name in praise and share the new once-for-all Passover Supper that He gave them.

8. What is communion?

For 2000 years, followers of Jesus Christ have shared in the Lord’s Supper every Sunday. The word used in the New Testament for the Lord’s Supper is EUCHARISTIA. It simply means thanksgiving. Jesus took the bread and the cup and gave thanks. It represents great thankfulness and joy. All of Jesus’ followers share in great thankfulness and joy that they are now a part of His Body. They belong to Him. We make up His Body.

9. Can I get a personal Bible study?

We will be more than glad to sit down and study God’s Word with you. Just ask any of our Ministers, Elders or Deacons. We want you to know the truth and for the truth to set you free! We want to encourage everyone to spend more time in God’s Word. It has the power to save us and change us completely, into the likeness of His Son.