

Article 3: Joining Congregational Life

3.1 Requirements of Membership

Membership in this congregation is open to any person who meets the specific age requirements in the policy and required by law and who is in sympathy with our purpose. Membership is open to all, regardless of race, color, disability, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, age, or national origin. There shall be 2 classes of members, active and inactive.

3.2 Method of Becoming a Member

To join, prospective members shall

- 1) Attend orientation session(s) provided by the Board of Trustees or a group delegated by the Board of Trustees and the Minister,
- 2) Respond to a request for an annual contribution of record, both financial and volunteer time.
- 3) Sign the membership book.

Individuals become active, voting members three (3) months after signing the book. Members aged 18 and over in accordance with Indiana's laws and regulations, have the right to vote on financial matters and the buying and selling of property.

3.2.1 Youth Membership

To become a youth member, they shall

- 1) Be over 13 years of age and under 18 years of age.
- 2) Attend orientation session(s) provided by the Board of Trustees or a group delegated by the Board of Trustees and the Minister.
- 3) Respond to a request for an annual contribution of record, both financial and volunteer time.
- 4) Sign the membership book.

Three (3) months after signing the book, they will be allowed to vote on all congregational issues with the exception of all financial decisions.

On their 18th birthday, youth Members will automatically become Adult Members of the congregation with full voting privileges, including financial matters.

3.3 Continuing Membership

Members may be declared inactive by the Board of Trustees following the policy and procedure for continuing membership. Any inactive member shall regain active status three months following evidence of renewed activity by responding to a request for an annual contribution of record, both financial and volunteer as defined above in 3.2 #2.

3.4 Termination

Membership may be terminated:

- 1) by the member's written resignation,
- 2) by the member's oral statement to the Minister or the President,
- 3) when the member is deceased, or
- 4) by vote of the Board of Trustees, when the member cannot be located.