

Fellowship Friends Program

The purpose of the Fellowship Friends program is to welcome new members and to provide a way to help them become involved in the life of the church. Fellowship Friends are volunteers who help the new members feel at home and find the answers to their questions about Saint Matthew.

Fellowship Friends Organization:

As soon as it becomes known that someone or a family intends to join Saint Matthew, another “someone” or family with similar make-up should be asked to become the new member’s “Fellowship Friend.”

The minister must put this process into action, since they would have the information necessary to begin the process. (Who is joining, what their family make-up is, what their interests are, etc., etc.)

Fellowship Friend Responsibilities:

- Call the prospective members on the telephone. Introduce yourself and tell them that you (or your family) are their fellowship friend.
- Plan to meet them personally at church, or if it seems natural, you may ask to visit them briefly or invite them out for a cup of coffee. *It’s very important that you are warm and welcoming, but definitely never pushy.* You may do what you feel comfortable with at this point.
- Whether you meet them soon after they express a desire to join, or on the day they come forward, tell them about opportunities for church involvement – Church School, study and athletic groups, children’s activities when applicable. Invite them to your Sunday School class and fellowship gatherings.
- Sit with the new member during the Sunday morning worship when the new member joins the church. During “Meet and Greet,” introduce the new member to people sitting nearby.
- Notify the office or appropriate church leaders if you think new members are especially suited to certain ministries.
- After approximately one month, follow up with the new member to see how things are going and if they have any additional questions about the church.
- Notify the pastor if it’s apparent that the new member is having any problems getting involved at Saint Matthew.

The Evangelism Team provides a New Member Welcome Packet which includes a welcome letter from the pastor, a Pictorial Church Directory, a listing of officers and information about the United Methodist Church.

