



BAPTISM GUIDELINES

Baptism Sunday: Baptism will be offered on the Third Sunday of each month at any of our services, unless otherwise noted. 2009 dates follow:

Baptism Date:

January 18, 2009
February 15, 2009
March 15, 2009
April 26, 2009 (note 5th Sunday)
May 17, 2009
June 21, 2009
July 26, 2009
August 16, 2009
September 27, 2009
October 18, 2009
November 29, 2009
December 20, 2009

Class Date: (10:00-10:30 a.m.)

January 11, 2009
February 8, 2009
March 8, 2009
April 19, 2009 (note change)
May 10, 2009
June 14, 2009
July 19, 2009
August 9, 2009
September 27, 2009 (time TBA)
October 11, 2009
November 22, 2009
December 13, 2009

Special Note: Adult baptisms may be held in conjunction with reception of new members.

Baptism Application: Applications must be submitted to Penny Young six weeks prior to the baptism date. **Our Book of Order** (see below) **requires at least one of the parents to be an active member of a congregation. If your current church is not FCPC, we will need special permission from the church of which you are a member, to baptize your child here.** The request for baptism will then be added to the Sessions docket for approval. All baptism requests must be approved by Session, prior to the baptism.

Baptism Parent's Class: There is a special class designed for the parents of the child(ren) being baptized. This class is held during the Church School hour, the Sunday before baptism (generally the 2nd Sunday of the Month). This prerequisite class is held in the Church Library from 10:00-10:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted.

Book of Order: (W-2.3014)

When a child is being presented for Baptism, ordinarily parent(s) or one(s) rightly exercising parental responsibility shall be an active member of the congregation. Those presenting children for Baptism shall promise to provide **nurture and guidance** within the community of faith until the child is ready to make a personal profession of faith and assume the responsibility of active church membership. The session may also consider a request for the baptism of a child from a Christian parent who is an active member of another congregation. If the session approves such a request, it shall consult with the governing body of the other congregation and shall notify them when the Sacrament had been administered.

Christian Nurture and Guidance: Parents who desire their child(ren) to receive the Sacrament of Christian Baptism make the following promises as they bring their child(ren) to Christ:

- **We will attend worship regularly** in order that we may learn more about the Christian faith in which we baptize our child, and through the inspiration of worship to better prepare him/her in the Christian faith by our own example of church attendance.
- **We will study the Christian faith** so that as our child matures we will be better able to answer his/her questions and guide his/her thinking toward a vital faith in God. So that we will be equipped to do this, we will make an effort to read Christian books and attend

meetings and courses which the church offers that will be helpful in raising our child to love and serve God.

- **We will have a time of family worship** with our child as he/she goes to bed, in the morning, or other times; reading the Bible and other literature that will help them grow in the understanding of God and his/her relationship to Christ. We will talk to, pray with, and teach them to pray.
- **We will encourage our child** as he/she grows to attend Church School and other church-sponsored activities. As parents, we will do all that we can to participate in and support the Christian Education programs in which our child is involved.

Public Affirmation: On the day your child is presented for Baptism you will be asked to affirm your faith by giving answer in the worship service to the following questions:

1. Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**
2. Do you trust Him? **I do.**
3. Do you intend your child to be His disciple, obeying His word and show forth His love? **I do.**
4. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation and seek the fellowship of the church wherever you might be that your child might grow up surrounded by the community of faith? **I will.**

Sacrament of Baptism: On the day of the baptism you will meet with the participating pastor in the Library a half hour before the service for last minute instructions in preparation for this sacred Sacrament.

We the Pastors, Session and Congregation of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church welcome your child to Christ's Church. If you have any questions regarding the baptism of your child, please feel free to call the church office, and speak with the Penny Young, 412-963-8243 Ext. 41.

Application must be received in the church office six weeks before the Baptism date.
Thank You!

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church
384 Fox Chapel Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238