



INFANT BAPTISM GUIDELINES

Baptism Sunday: Baptism will be offered on the Third Sunday of each month, unless otherwise noted. 2007 dates follow:

Baptism Date:	Class Date: (8:45-9:30 a.m.)
January 21, 2007	January 14, 2007
February 18, 2007	February 11, 2007
March 18, 2007	March 11, 2007
April 22, 2007 (note 4 th Sunday)	April 15, 2007
May 20, 2007	May 13, 2007
June 17, 2007	June 10, 2007 (9:00-9:45 a.m.)
July 15, 2007	July 8, 2007 (9:00-9:45 a.m.)
August 19, 2007	August 12, 2007 (9:00-9:45 a.m.)
September 23, 2007 (note 4 th Sunday)	September 16, 2007
October 21, 2007	October 14, 2007
November 18, 2007	November 11, 2007
December 23, 2007 (note 4 th Sunday)	To be determined

Baptism Application: Applications must be submitted to the Assistant for Care and Support 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 8:45 to 9:30 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