

What is a member?

At Sonoma Springs all are welcome to attend and get involved whether they are members or not. However we invite people to become members that are disciples. Being a disciple of Jesus implies a commitment to both BE and DO. Jesus says, “I am the vine and you all are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit” (John 15). Jesus calls us to go and make disciples of the nations. (Matthew 28). The fruit of our doing flows from our being in Christ. To capture what it really means to be a member we put two words together: disciplemember.

What does a disciplemember do?

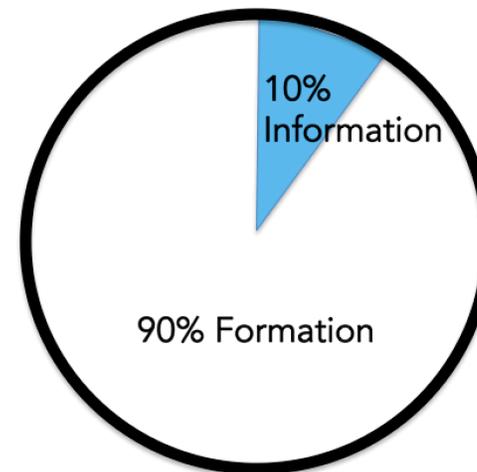
The church is not a place but a people, a family of faith with a purpose. We are a congregational church and as such, members are an integral part of the decision-making body that prayerfully approves budgets, votes for church leaders and calls the pastor. But more than the “business” of church members are called to know and use their gifts in love to be and make fruitful disciples.

Why become a disciplemember?

Every follower of Christ is called to be a part of the global and local church. Together we are filled with the power of God’s Spirit to grow deeper in Christ and further in mission. Just as the vows to a spouse or the commitment to family is important, so too is the commitment to your local church. Deep connection and commitment to Christ and to each other equip us for significant relationships and ministry together. - Ephesians 4:12

How can you become a disciplemember?

If we had to put a percentage on how Jesus trained His disciples, about 90% was formation and 10% was information. You will see how these two priorities of Formation and Information apply to our disciplemember process as you read on. The reason formation is so heavily weighed is that it has to do with shaping identity and character development with the fruit of the Spirit of love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23). Transferring information takes little time. Formation of character and identity takes a lifetime.



Jesus spent face to face time with his disciples as they rested, worked, ate, and walked with him to help them grow and to equip them. We want to follow the Jesus way to be and make fruitful disciples, not just converts.

Jesus chose his disciples that “they might be with them and to send them out.” - Mark 3:14



Yes I want to explore becoming a **disciplemember**.

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

What are our two priorities in this process?

1. Formation

We apply the biblical principles of freedom in Christ through a discipleship course that focuses on our identity in Him. This process to know and grow in your identity in Christ includes:

- Teaching and sharing in small groups.
- A practical ministry tool to resolve personal and spiritual conflicts.
- Baptism (or affirming this if already baptized)

2. Information

We learn about the identity and mission of the global and our local church. For a couple of hours we talk about things that include:

- Global - Evangelical Covenant Church & the church worldwide
- Local - Sonoma Springs Covenant Church. Our vision & goals.
- Faith (our beliefs) and action (our priorities and goals)
- What it means to be a member that is a fruitful disciple
- Sharing your story of faith in Christ

Please pray and consider making this your church home. Feel free to ask us about the next step in becoming a **disciplemember**. We realize that being a disciple of Jesus is a life-long journey. Joining our church family may be an important step in that journey for you.



It's not a membership as in a civic organization or a country club.

It's the kind of membership given to us in 1 Cor. 12:27:

"Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it."

Because I am a member of the body of Christ, I must be a functioning member, whether I am an "eye" or "ear", or a "hand".

As a functioning member I will give, serve, minister, evangelize...

I will seek to be a blessing to others.

- Thom Rainer -