



BAPTISM GUIDELINES

Baptism Sunday: Baptism will be offered on the Third Sunday of each month at any of our services, unless otherwise noted. 2008 dates follow:

Baptism Date:	Class Date: (9:00-9:30 a.m.)
January 20, 2008	January 13, 2008
February 17, 2008	February 10, 2008
March 30, 2008 (note 5 th Sunday)	To be determined
April 20, 2008	April 13, 2008
May 11, 2008	May 4, 2008
June 15, 2008	June 8, 2008
July 20, 2008	July 13, 2008
August 17, 2008	August 10, 2008
September 28, 2008 (note 4 th Sunday)	To be determined
October 19, 2008	October 12, 2008
November 16, 2008	November 9, 2008
December 21, 2008	To be determined

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

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 9:00-9:30 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