

**Q1 Will there be certificates for my baptism and/or membership?**

A1 Certificates of Baptism and of Church Membership will be issued as tangible acknowledgement from the church of these significant milestones in your spiritual journey and of your commitment to Christian living.

**Q2 How are the Baptism and Membership Certificates useful?**

A2 The Baptism certificate is a valid legal document for purpose of name change (inclusion of Christian name for IC) and as a record of your declaration of faith. The Membership certificate is used in the event of official requirements, e.g. membership transfer, application for full-time ministry, etc.

**Q3 I have lost my baptism certificate. What must I do to satisfy your request for a copy of same?**

A3 A statement from your previous church confirming that you had undergone baptism there or held a membership with them before would suffice; failing which, please write in officially to CCMC to inform us that you have exhausted all means of obtaining documentary proof of your baptism.

**Q4 What happens when I've attended all your classes but the interviewer recommends a deferment for my baptism/membership?**

A4 The interviewer may choose not to recommend you for baptism or membership in the event that you are not ready. We recommend that you take some time to process your reasons for baptism and membership. Do talk to the interviewer.



# Baptism and Membership Brochure



## Something to know about ...

### Baptism ...

Baptism is the sacrament of initiation into the body of Christ, the Church, which joins the new believe with Christians everywhere.

Under the instruction of the church, candidates carefully consider their motives for baptism and their willingness to accept the responsibilities of Christian life.

Under the guidance of disciplers/sponsors, candidates participate regularly in the life and ministry of the church, attend worship services, study the Bible and learn to follow Christ's teachings in daily life.

### Membership ...

When persons unite with a local Methodist church, they profess their faith in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, and in the Holy Spirit. Thus, they make known their desire to live their daily lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. They covenant with God and with the members of the local church to keep the vows which are part of the order of confirmation and reception into the Church.

1. To confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and pledge their allegiance to His kingdom.
2. To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Bible.
3. To promise according to the grace given them to live a Christian life and always remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church.
4. To be loyal to The Methodist Church and uphold it by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, and their service.

**Q2 Can church membership at CCMC help my child secure a place in MGS or other Methodist School?**

A2 Much as we also desire for your child to be enrolled in MGS or any of our Methodist Schools, church membership in CCMC unfortunately does not automatically secure a place for your child. It will only qualify her for Phase 2B of the Primary school registration exercise.

**Q3 What are my obligations to the church as a member?**

A3 Our membership vows include our commitment to the church through our prayers, presence, gifts and service.

**Q4 Do I automatically become a member of the church upon my baptism?**

A4 No, you have to apply to be received into membership.

**Q5 Can I be baptized but not take up church membership?**

A5 Baptism is open to all individuals. Unless there are important reasons, all above 16 are encouraged to follow through their baptism with a membership commitment, receiving the ritual of Confirmation.

**Q6 Is there a minimum age criterion for membership?**

A6 Membership can be taken up on reaching 16 years of age.

**Q7 How long must I be attending CCMC before I can apply to be a member?**

A7 You should have been attending our Sunday services for at least 6 months regularly before applying for membership.

**Q8 How are you going to verify if I have attended CCMC for 6 months already?**

A8 We will base this upon the honest declaration of the individual, preferably by recommendation from Small Group Leaders.

**Q9 If I have fulfilled all membership requirements but due to an unforeseen circumstance, I could not be present on the membership reception day would I still be recorded as a member of the church?**

A9 We will receive you into membership on the next membership reception day. As reception is into the community of believers, it should not take place on an individual basis.



**Q4 I was baptised as a Catholic. Do I have to be baptised again?**

A4 Baptism can be received only once; any Christian baptism carried out in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is recognized. No re-baptism is necessary.

**Q5 What modes of baptism does CCMC offer?**

A5 We practice baptism by sprinkling or pouring or immersion.

**Q6 I was baptised as a child but along life's journey, I had deviated from my faith. I have come back to the Lord now. Can I be baptised again?**

A6 In the Methodist church we do not re-baptise a person. However, we can help you make a public reaffirmation of your faith.

## Infant/Child Baptism at CCMC

**Q1 What are the criteria for Infant/Child baptism?**

A1 At least 1 parent must be a practising Christian and preferably a member of CCMC and committed to raise the child according to the Christian faith.

**Q2 Do children and youths have to attend baptism classes?**

A2 Those below 16 years old need not attend classes. Compulsory for both parents to attend a session by the pastor. Parental consent is required for youths below 16 years.

**Q3 How can I help my child prepare for baptism? Does CCMC have any guide or study programme to prepare them?**

A3 For those below 16, it is the parent's responsibility to guide them in the faith. The parents will be briefed by the pastor. We do not have a study programme to prepare children for baptism.

## Membership at CCMC

**Q1 Why should I take up membership in a church?**

A1 The Christian life is a lifelong process of growth in Christ. Church Membership is our commitment to be part of a local church community where we journey with others in seeking and serving God as disciples.



### Criteria for Baptism (Only)

- Professing faith in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord
- Completed Baptism and Membership Class (Topics 1-5)



### Criteria for Infant/Child Baptism

- At least 1 parent is to be a committed Christian and preferably a member of CCMC
- Commitment by parents to raise the child according to the Christian faith
- Compulsory for parents to attend a session by Pastor
- Parental consent needed for youths below 16-year old



### Criteria for Membership

- 16 years and above
- Already baptized
- Attending CCMC for at least 6 months
- Preferably attending a Small Group in CCMC
- Completed Baptism and Membership Classes (Topics 1-8)



### Criteria for Transfer

- Attending CCMC for at least 6 months
- Preferably attending a Small Group in CCMC
- Transfer from another denomination / Methodist Church – Completed Baptism and Membership Classes (Topics 1-8). Unless otherwise approved by PIC.

## Registration / Requirements

- Fully completed Application Form together with testimony, a recent photo and relevant documents, e.g. Baptism certificate, Certificate of Transfer
- Meet the criteria mentioned in this brochure
- Reading of the Membership Manual
- Personal interview with a pastoral team member

Please send an email to [admin@ccmc.org.sg](mailto:admin@ccmc.org.sg) to request for Application Forms or for more information.

### Something to know about writing a testimony...

1. Life before becoming a Christian  
Attitudes, needs, problems, values, basis of security, happiness.
2. Circumstances of the conversion  
The first time you were exposed to Christianity, your initial response, when you first thought of becoming a Christian, the push factors, the struggles you faced when you decided to be a Christian.
3. Life as a Christian  
The changes you saw in your life, other benefits observed in marriage and relationships.
4. Reasons for taking up membership in CCMC.

#### Pointers:

Ask God for wisdom and guidance as you write. Feel free to write about your concerns and difficulties.

## Baptism and Membership Class Schedule

TOPICS in Christian Discipleship	
1	Reason to Believe; The Authority of the Bible
2	Christian Life (Life Journal, Spiritual Disciplines)
3	Church History (Early Church, Reformation, Missional)
4	Christian Beliefs (Apostles' Creed)
5	True Freedom in Christ – Prayer Retreat
6	Methodism as Catholic and Reformed
7	Methodist Doctrinal Distinctive
8	Methodist History – Global and Local

Baptism and Membership Classes are organised twice a year before Easter and Christmas.

## How Can We Help You?

### Frequently Asked Questions [FAQ] on BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP

We recognize your time is valuable and your queries are important to you as they are to us. Therefore, to save your time and to help us serve you well, would you please take a moment to review our FAQ section before contacting us? The chances are good that you will see your question addressed here. Otherwise, do send us your question via email to [admin@ccmc.org.sg](mailto:admin@ccmc.org.sg)  
Thank you!

## Baptism at CCMC

### Q1 What is baptism?

A1 Water is used in this Christian rite to symbolically proclaim the person's belief in Jesus Christ as his/her personal Saviour and Lord and his/her new birth as a Christian. By baptism, the person is publicly united with Christians everywhere.

### Q2 Why must I be baptised?

A2 In baptism, we follow after Christ's example and obey His command to do so.

### Q3 What must I do before I can be baptised?

A3 To be baptised, you should have received Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour.