

White Rock Community Church  
Membership Policy  
As Approved by the Congregation May, 2002

I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for Membership at White Rock Community Church (WRCC).

II. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

This policy is established and approved by the Board of Deacons. It is the responsibility of this Board to ensure compliance with this policy.

III. POLICY

The WRCC Constitution (approved December 1999) and the WRCC By-Laws (approved December 1999), act as the primary policy and operating guidelines for WRCC.

The following policy statements apply to Membership WRCC.

A. Status of Membership (See WRCC Constitution, Article IV, Section 4.03- "Faith, Practice and Membership")

1. "Active" WRCC Membership status entitles the Member to all privileges and responsibilities of Membership. (See "Privileges of Membership" and "Responsibilities of Membership")
2. "Inactive" WRCC Membership status disentitles the Member to all privileges of Membership. This Membership status on the church roll but does not carry with it the privileges of Membership.
3. "Honorary" WRCC Membership status entitles the Member to all privileges and responsibilities of Membership (See "Privileges of Membership" and "Responsibilities of Membership").

B. Privileges of Membership:

1. Suffrage: "Active" WRCC Membership allows the Member to vote in any regular or special Congregational meeting in which the Member is present. (See WRCC Constitution, Article VI, Section 6.03- "Meetings")
2. Suffrage: "Active" WRCC Membership allows the Member to vote in any regular or special meeting of a Committee or Ministry to which the Member has been duly elected. (See WRCC By-Laws, Article V – "Election of Church Officers", and WRCC By-Laws, Article VIII – "Nominating Committee").

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3. Service: "Active" WRCC Membership allows the Member to be nominating as a candidate for, and if duly elected by the Congregation, to serve as a Member of, any duly established WRCC Committee, Ministry, or position of Trust. (See WRCC By-Laws, Article V – "Election of Church Officers", and WRCC By-Laws, Article VIII – "Nominating Committee")

C. Responsibilities of Membership:

1. As stated in the WRCC Constitution all members shall agree to the WRCC Church Covenant and the Faith, Practices, and Membership of WRCC (See WRCC Constitution, Article III – "Church Covenant", and WRC Constitution, Article IV – "Faith, Practice and Membership").

IV. Procedure

A. Admission of Membership:

1. The procedure for Admission of Membership shall be supervised by the Pastor of WRCC. (See WRCC Constitution, Article I, Section 1.01 – "Membership").
2. The procedure for Admission of Membership shall be:
  - a) An individual shall present himself or herself to the Congregation as a candidate for Membership during any WRCC worship service.
  - b) A candidate of Membership shall provide to the Pastor, or the Pastor's designee(s), satisfactory evidence of the qualification for Membership as defined in the WRCC Constitution and WRCC Bi-Laws. (See WRCC Constitution Article "Church Covenant", WRCC Constitution, Article IV – "Faith Practice and Membership", and WRCC By-Laws, Article I – Membership".)
  - c) A candidate for membership shall complete the requirements of the curriculum for the WRCC Orientation Class before the Congregation may consider Admission of Membership for the candidate.
    - 1) The Pastor, or the Pastor's designee(s), shall create and maintain the curriculum for the WRCC Orientation Class.
    - 2) The Pastor, or the Pastor's designee(s), shall facilitate sessions of the WRCC Orientation Class.
    - 3) The WRCC Orientation Class shall consist of no fewer than four (4) and no greater than (6) sessions.
    - 4) The WRCC Orientation Class shall be offered by the Pastor, or his designee(s), no fewer than four times (4) times per year.

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- 5) The WRCC Orientation Class shall be offered by the Pastor, or his designee(s), in the period of time immediately preceding each regular Congregation meeting, and for a period of time sufficient for completing the requirements of the curriculum.
  - d) Candidates for Membership who have met the qualifications of Membership and who have successfully completed the WRCC Orientation Class, as defined in the curriculum created and maintained by the Pastor, shall be considered for Admission of Membership at the next regular Congregational meeting.
  - e) Candidates for Membership who have met the qualifications of Membership and who have successfully completed the WRCC Orientation Class, as defined in the curriculum created and maintained by the Pastor, may be considered for Admission of Membership during a Special Congregational meeting called for that purpose.
  - d) Consideration of Candidates for Membership during a Congregational meeting shall occur during the time set aside for "New Business".
  - g) A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting Members present during a regular Congregational meeting is required for Admission of Membership. (See WRCC Constitution, Article VI, Section 6.03 – "Meetings").
  - h) The new member, i.e. the former candidate for Membership, shall be presented and introduced to the Congregation as new Members during the first worship service immediately following the regular Congregational meeting where they were admitted into Membership.
- B. Status of Membership:
1. "Active" Membership status is attained by a candidate for Membership once candidate has successfully completed the process for Admission of Membership. (See Admission of Membership)'
  2. "Inactive" Membership status is attained by a Member when the Member is noted on the WRCC attendance rolls as having habitually absented himself or herself from the worship services of the church.
    - a) This "Inactive" Membership Policy has been initiated and approved by the WRCC Board of Deacons. (See WRCC Constitution, Article IV, Section 4.03 – "Status of Membership")
    - b) "Habitually absented" is defined as WRCC having no record on its rolls of the Member's attendance in any WRCC worship service for the six (6) months preceding the date of the review of the WRCC attendance rolls.

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- c) Preceding each regular and special Congregational meeting (See WRCC Constitution, Article VI, Section 6.03 – Meetings”), the WRCC Clerk/Church Secretary shall review the WRCC attendance rolls and shall update the WRCC rolls to reflect each “Inactive” Membership status that has been attained by an Member of WRCC. (See WRCC By-Laws, Article VI – “Clerk/Church Secretary”)
  - d) The review and update of the WRCC attendance rolls shall occur on, or have an effective date as of fourteen (14) days preceding the date of the regular or special Congregational meeting. (See WRCC Constitution, Article VI, Section 6.03 – “Meeting”)
  - e) The WRCC Clerk/ Church Secretary shall change the status of Membership from “Inactive” to “Active” when a Member’s renewed attendance in a WRCC worship service is noted on the WRCC attendance rolls. (See WRCC By -Laws, Article VI – “Clerk/Church Secretary”)
3. “Honorary” Membership status is attained by a candidate for Membership if the candidate has met the qualifications for Membership and if the candidate has been duly elected into Membership by the Congregation during a regular or special Congregational Meeting. (See WRCC Constitution, section 4.01, 4.03, and 6.03)

C. Termination of Membership:

- 1. Termination of Membership shall occur:
    - a) “...at the request of the church Member...” in writing. (See WRCC Constitution, Article IV, Section 4.04 – “Termination of Membership”)
    - b) “...by death” of the church Member. (See WRCC Constitution, Article IV, Section 4.04 – “Termination of Membership”)
    - c) “...by discipline of the congregation...” (See WRCC Constitution, Article IV, Section 4.04 – “Termination of Membership,” and WRCC By-Laws, Article I, Section 1.02 – “Membership”)
- D. Termination of Membership status disentitles the former Member to all privileges and responsibilities of Membership.
- E. Upon termination of Membership status, the WRCC Clerk/Church Secretary shall remove the former Member from the WRCC Membership rolls. (See WRCC By-Laws, Article I, Section 1.02 – “Membership”)

Document History

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