

# MEMBERSHIP

The People's Church

“But now  
there are many  
members,  
but one body.”

“1 Corinthians 12:20”



## THE PEOPLE'S CHURCH

P.O. Box EL-27443

Spanish Wells, Bahamas

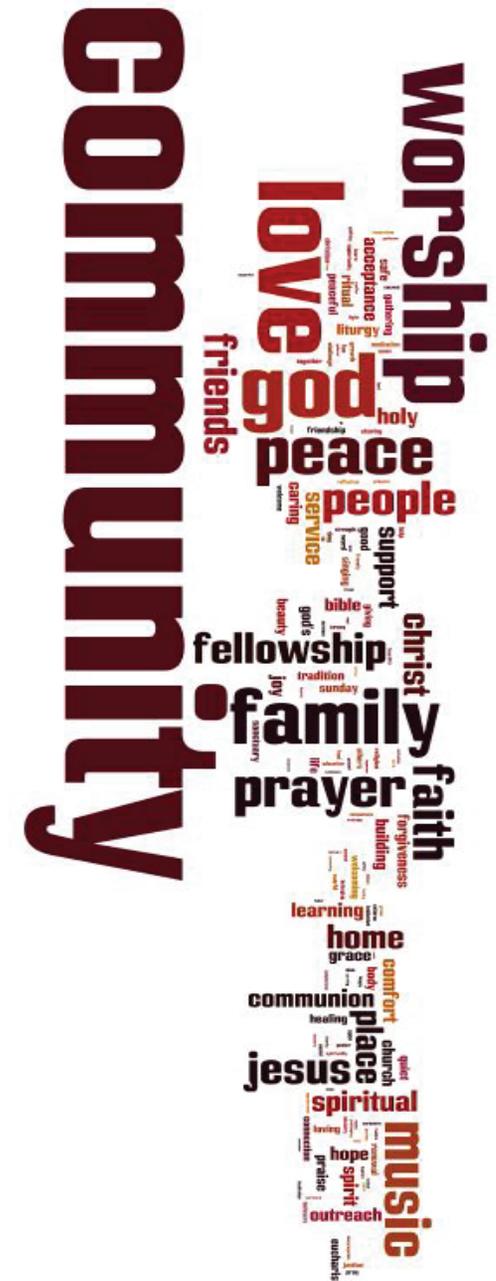
242 - 333 - 4701

[www.peopleschurchbahamas.com](http://www.peopleschurchbahamas.com)

Pastor Donald Sweeting

242 - 333 - 4701

[donald@peopleschurchbahamas.com](mailto:donald@peopleschurchbahamas.com)



Membership: Joining The Family

# Join the Family

Believers are born into the family of God at salvation. We become members of the body of Christ, members of the universal church made up of all believers. We are also commanded in the New Testament to join together to worship and fulfill God's purposes for us along with other believers, thus forming local churches. God expects every believer to be an active member of a local church.

The local church is to function as a family living in close relationship with one another. It is also to function as a people joined together by the New Covenant to care for, nurture, minister to, and mature one another. The church is about maturity, ministry, mission, and magnifying God.



Membership at The People's Church involves entering into active participation in the life of the church, not just an addition to the roster. It is the declaration or affirmation of the believer that they intend to be committed to the well-being and development of The People's Church, and that they will place themselves under the authority of the leadership of the church. Membership is also a declaration and affirmation on the part of the church that this member is our responsibility. We as a church are obligated to all people, but first and foremost to our members.

Because of this, we want to help every believer attending The People's Church to make a solid connection to the life and family of The People's Church. In order to do this we have established a process that safeguards the integrity of the meaning of membership and helps clarify the member's responsibilities to the church, and the church's responsibilities to our members. This process must be completed before you will be considered a member.

Each of these is important and contributes to a sense of connection. Only when you complete this process do you become a member.

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# The Process

## 1. Complete the Membership Application

This is very brief and is simply a record of your basic family and contact information and a testimony of your salvation & baptism.

## 2. Attend the Membership Class

The Membership Class is designed to assure that the potential member understands the doctrinal statement of the church, its purposes and objectives, and the church's philosophy of ministry. It will be approximately one hour in length and can be arranged to fit with your schedule.

Because of the need for a consistent understanding of membership expectations and process, every candidate for membership must attend the class.

We believe so strongly in the benefit of this class that it is required to complete the process.

## 3. Interview with one of the Pastors

This may be at the same time as the membership class. The goal is to help the prospective member get acquainted with the Pastors and discuss any questions.

## 4. Recommendation by the Pastor

If all of your requirements have been met for membership the Pastor will make a recommendation for the membership to the Leadership Board.

## 5. Approval by the Leadership

Based on the recommendation of the Pastor, the Leadership Board will make your membership official. Your membership will be announced to the congregation and you will be welcomed into the family!

# Welcome to the Family!

We want every person who walks through the doors of The People's Church to feel welcome, accepted, and loved. This should be the experience of the person visiting for the first time and the member who has been attending "forever". Making people feel welcome is the responsibility of every believer, but especially our members. We trust you will recognize and embrace this responsibility.

Every believer is equipped by God to minister to and within the Body of Christ to help bring it to maturity. This means that it is your responsibility to get involved in ministry! We want to see God use your gifts and abilities to contribute to ministry that effects eternity!

God's Word commands the leaders of the church to oversee the life of the church to assure that God's purpose and objectives are fulfilled. Our leaders are committed to do this through prayerful consideration of the principles of God's Word, seeking His wisdom and guidance to apply these principles in our church and cultural context.

God's Word also commands the leaders to pastor the people. This is the ministry of caring for the spiritual and physical needs of the church. Our leaders are committed to the careful study of God's Word for personal growth and to lead you to maturity in Christ. We are committed to the care of each member of the church and developing ministries and structures to facilitate member care effectively & efficiently.

The responsibility of the church members to submit to and support the leadership of the church is equally clear in scripture. God expects that church members will protect the unity of their church and support its leadership through word and action. We trust this will be the testimony of the members of The People's Church.

