

## TO BECOME A MEMBER OF GOOD SHEPHERD

If you are reading this page, WELCOME! We are very excited about your interest in Good Shepherd of the Hills. Because of our location in Arizona and being a "wintering ground" for snowbirds, our members are in several categories, but they are ALL MEMBERS.

If you are a full time resident from a previous Episcopal Church. A "letter of transfer" is requested from your previous parish. This is a form which contains your contact information and informs your previous parish of your intent to join a new parish.

If you are a part-time resident, (6-9 months in Arizona). A meeting with the rector will get you on the right track. Typically part-time residents keep their "letter" at its present location. However, we allow part-time residents to vote for elections of the vestry and important issues at the annual meeting (see member in good standing).

If you are a "snowbird" who attends Good Shepherd when in Arizona, and are a member of another denomination, you may register your baptism with the parish to become a member of Good Shepherd; if you wish to become a full-fledged Episcopalian, prior to our bishop's visit to Good Shepherd, there will be a series of inquirer's classes led by the Rector to give you important information about the Episcopal Church. When the Bishop arrives, he will formally "receive" you into the church during the Sunday service.

If you are not baptized, you may be baptized here at Good Shepherd in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Baptisms occur when needed.

A Member in Good Standing. This category of membership refers to your eligibility to vote for vestry members and important issues at the Annual Parish Meeting. A pledge card stating your financial support for the yearly operating budget is all that is needed. To be a member "in good standing" we must receive a pledge and you must participate in worship on a regular basis. The amount of your pledge is between you and God and should be prayerfully considered.

Regardless of the amount of time you spend here YOU ARE A MEMBER once you make your intentions known to the rector. HOWEVER, know that you are always welcome to participate fully in any event or worship service without becoming a member - simply show up!

We love visitors, and invite you to worship with us often and to join us for coffee hour after services, which is a great way to get to know the parish. We are confident once you've been around, you'll be one of us forever...

Please check with the church office for more information.