

Church of the Apostles

Raleigh, NC

Spring 2020

Church of the Apostles seeks to embody Acts 2:42-47 through the preaching and teaching of the word of God, shared life together, Spirit-filled liturgical worship, prayer, and local and global missions.

As we enter into a new season of congregational life together, we eagerly seek to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in identifying a new senior pastor to guide our church body and help clarify and sharpen our call to make disciples in Raleigh and beyond.

Apostles is a biblically orthodox Anglican church whose members are passionate about the proclamation and spread of the gospel. We are comprised of community leaders who work in the home, business, education, government, the arts and nonprofit organizations in the community. And we are blessed—by God’s grace—to occupy a strategic location in a spacious debt-free church building. At our core, we are a church community that aims to know and serve God—with a desire to encourage and equip others toward a deeper participation in advancing His Kingdom in Raleigh and beyond.

Apostles Essentials for our next leader:

1. Preaching and Teaching the Word of God
2. Theology: Firmly upholding the doctrine of our Province, Diocese, and local church
3. Bringing the Gospel into our local culture in a relevant and powerful way
4. Shared Life Together: A Commitment to Strong Community and Discipleship
5. Anglican: Spirit-filled Liturgical Worship
6. Being Spirit-led and Prayerful
7. Local and Global Mission-oriented
8. Building up and deploying Leaders

OUR HISTORY

Beginnings

Church of the Apostles began as a God-given vision in 1999. Our first vision statement read as follows:

“In an American, denominational culture of compromise, the Church of the Apostles is an authentic, Holy Spirit-led Anglican church that stands firmly united in the essentials of the Christian faith.”

In the winter of 2000, our founding pastor, Rev. Terrell Glenn and his family, responded to God’s call to move to Raleigh and plant Church of the Apostles. The church’s first worship

gathering was a Christmas Eve service with a handful of families in the Glenn's home—complete with a children's pageant utilizing a quickly assembled collection of stuffed animals.

At the time of Apostles' founding, a great shift was occurring in the worldwide Anglican Communion. As Provinces that had historically led the growth of Anglicanism (in the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada) moved steadily toward theological and moral compromise, biblically orthodox congregations and clergy in North America sought spiritual oversight of faithful bishops and Provinces. The determination to provide such oversight and care came from bishops and Provinces almost exclusively located in the Global South. At great personal and financial sacrifice, the Anglican Church of Rwanda was the first to provide oversight for Anglicans in the United States who were seeking to remain true to our traditions and faithful to the Scriptures. The Anglican Mission in America (AMiA) was established by the Church of Rwanda, and Apostles was planted through the AMiA.

From the beginning, Apostles attracted people from a variety of church traditions. Indeed, Robert Webber's phrase, "Evangelicals on the Canterbury Trail," was often used to describe Church of the Apostles in our early years. Even today, many in our congregation describe themselves as "accidental Anglicans" who have learned to appreciate and love the rich traditions Anglicanism offers.

Wandering

It wasn't long after our founding that the Lord used the need for a physical place to meet and worship to call us to total dependence and attentiveness to him. At each step of growth, we had to pray, wait, and be ready to move to an unexpected new place that God provided. As the initial group outgrew the Glenn's family room, Apostles was led to the training room of a local heating and air-conditioning company. Next we were led to an empty store space at the original North Hills Mall, where we continued to expand to other empty storefronts until the mall was demolished. After this, we were led to a 12,000 square foot office building behind Crabtree Valley Mall—formerly the headquarters of a large local retailer. When that property was sold, we were given two weeks to locate a new building—an increasingly more difficult task for our growing congregation.

With each move, we were called to prayer, trusting the Lord to speak to—and lead—us. At the last hour, God provided a 17,000 square foot office space in North Raleigh. This location served as home for three years. From a handful of founding families, Apostles grew by almost 45% annually to a membership of 300 by 2005, with a million-dollar annual budget.

New Chapter

In the spring of 2005, founding pastor Rev. Terrell Glenn was called by the bishop to serve as the pastor of All Saints Anglican Church in Pawley's Island, SC. Glenn's last sermon was on May 22, 2005.

In response, Apostles' Leadership Council hosted a church-wide membership meeting on a Saturday in April 2005—allowing us to take ownership of the vision, mission, and values Rev. Glenn had led us toward during his tenure. As we embarked on this process, we asked God to lead, guide, and direct us into what He had for us in this next chapter of congregational life.

In early May, a Search Team was formed and in August 2005, Rev. Patrick Dominguez accepted the call to be our Senior Pastor. After giving his family time to transition, Patrick's first Sunday was in December 2005.

Upon This Rock

From Apostles' earliest days, a sizable group of real estate developers in our congregation had been on the lookout for a permanent location. However, on multiple occasions, promising locations emerged and then fell through. Finally a commercial building surfaced in the search, which had been home to Coastal Federal Credit Union (CFCU). This building had an abundance of offices and meeting rooms, a large cafeteria that could serve as a fellowship hall, and a parking garage. With some creative architectural work, plans were drawn to tear down the garage in order to build a sanctuary in its footprint, and to convert the remainder of the existing building into offices, classrooms, a fellowship hall, and meeting spaces for children and youth.

On December 19, 2006, the CFCU building was put under contract and Apostles initiated a capital campaign called Upon This Rock. Our goal was to raise \$7 million for the purchase, partial demolition, upfit, and new sanctuary. In order to wisely steward our resources and keep our occupancy cost at 25% of our annual budget, we aimed to raise \$3 million in cash via our capital campaign and borrow the remaining \$4.5 million.

Rather than follow a traditional building campaign strategy, we invited each individual and household to partner with God to determine how they should give. On Commitment Sunday—March 18, 2007—we got our first indication of how the Lord would lead the congregation and provide. After pledges were counted, God had moved us to contribute \$3.3 million—allowing demolition and construction to begin soon thereafter. We closed on the CFCU property on March 26, 2007 with a sales price of \$ 3.9 million. And we worshiped together on our first Sunday at 333 Church at North Hills Street in April 2008.

Freedom for Mission

It is clearly by God's good and gracious hand that Apostles is where we are today as a church—strategically located in the booming North Hills area of Raleigh. From our 2007 purchase of the CFCU building and demolition of its parking garage to build our sanctuary, to Kane Realty's 2017 purchase of a corner of our property to build a seven-story parking deck (available for our use) for its ongoing commercial and residential development, the North Hills area has grown exponentially around us—with no signs of slowing down.

It was in this context that we launched the Freedom for Mission campaign in October 2017 to pay off our mortgage and be freed up to better fund the mission of Apostles and more fully

support our local and global Mission Partners. As such, we shifted our yearly budget from debt financing to ministry and mission development.

Achievement of our Freedom from Mission goals is leading Apostles into an exciting future in which we are able to more effectively steward all the resources that God entrusts to us—and continues to build around us.

~~AMiA to PEARUSA~~ AMiA to ACNA

In 2009, there was a major development in the global reorganization of biblically orthodox Anglicans, the establishment of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA). Whereas the AMiA represented ~175 churches and plants, the ACNA united over 1000 orthodox congregations in the US and Canada who had all been laboring (many for years) to remain faithful to the faith and mission of historic Anglicanism. The AMiA initially became part of the ACNA while remaining a Missionary District of the Church of Rwanda – a “dual citizenship” identity. But in 2011, several bishops from the AMiA followed its Presiding Bishop and abruptly withdrew from the ACNA and from the oversight of Rwanda. It was in this context that Church of the Apostles decided to join the newly-formed missionary district of Rwanda, PEARUSA (Province de l'Eglise Anglicane au Rwanda – USA), in order to preserve our beloved partnership with the Rwandan church.

PEARUSA also returned to full membership in the ACNA, thus joining the ongoing, growing movement of orthodox Anglicans seeking to reach North America with the Gospel. Apostles remained under PEARUSA until January 2016. At that time, under the leadership of Archbishop Onesphore Rwaje of Rwanda and PEARUSA Presiding Bishop Steve Breedlove, PEARUSA transitioned in two new dioceses within the ACNA. Apostles voted to affiliate with the new ACNA Diocese of Christ Our Hope (DCH). In 2020, the church transferred to the Diocese of the Carolinas led by Bishop Steve Wood. ~~under the continuing episcopal ministry of Bishop Breedlove. Apostles has been a faithful participant and active contributor in the Gospel mission and ministry of the DCH since that time.~~

SEARCH BEGINS

In June 2019, after 15 fruitful years of ministry, Patrick Dominguez resigned as our Senior Pastor. Patrick led Church of the Apostles through incredible transition and change, including a capital campaign, a building design and project, Freedom for Mission, expansion of our local and global missions, and many other areas. Patrick touched the lives of many during his ministry and had a unique way to enter into the significant chapters of a member's life to bring humor, hope, and eternal perspective. Perhaps greatest of all was Patrick's passion for “seeking the lost, building up the found, and transforming the city for Jesus Christ.”

Terrell Glenn currently serves as our Interim Senior Pastor, and Bishop in Residence.

OUR CHURCH

Church of the Apostles is made up of an unusually high number of gifted leaders. Members of our church serve as leaders in their families, neighborhoods, and the city—and they bring their considerable leadership skills into the congregation.

The result is that ministry teams at Apostles are typically led by—and filled with—strong and gifted lay leaders committed to the vision, mission and values of the church. This also means that our pastors and church staff have the privilege and responsibility to skillfully and wisely deploy gifted people into areas of service in the church.

Strong Community, Connectedness, and Spiritual Formation

By far and away the greatest value & desire across the board for members of Apostles is discipleship. Members of the congregation long to be fed and supported in their faith and life (to be adequately formed) to live as faithful, confident Christians in the real world.

Members want a clear path toward involvement and maturity in the life of Apostles. There is a great desire for clear and consistent understanding how to get involved and grow and how to develop true hospitality and community.

OUR STAFF

Terrell Glenn, Interim Senior Pastor and Bishop in Residence
Eric Bolash, Associate Pastor
Lee Hilts, Executive Director
Jonathan Noel, Director of Worship Arts
Stacey Wiley, Director of Children's Ministry
Lauren Mann, ~~Student Ministry Coordinator~~ Director of Discipleship
Emily Gebbie and Hayes Thielman, Student Ministry Directors
Ashley Crutchfield, Raleigh Fellows Director
Ann Dotson, Director of Women's Ministry
Teresa Kincaid, Director of Prayer Ministry
Laynette Rustin, Financial Administrator
Laura Witter, Communications and Building Administrator
Marsha Whyte, Administrative Assistant
Julie Tisdale, Missions Coordinator

OUR WORSHIP

Worship at Apostles is both ancient and modern. Anglicans have always upheld the Holy Scriptures as God's Word and we stand on the two great creeds—the Apostles' and Nicene—as the fundamental statements of Christian belief. We celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as commanded by Jesus and we uphold the historic order of Bishops in the administration of the church's life and mission.

Our worship style is liturgical, celebratory, and demonstrative of our diversity of expressions of Christian faith. We believe in the sacramental nature of the Church and value the Anglican distinctives in liturgy formed through the prayers, faith, and experiences of our spiritual forefathers. We believe that meaningful church life combines the very best of ancient and present-day practices. We long to see worship extend beyond the Sunday morning experience into daily living.

We seek to delight God's heart by incorporating three elements in our worship:

- **God's Word** – The authority of Scripture is central to our worship
- **The Sacraments** – The richness and the authenticity of the Sacraments
- **The Holy Spirit** – We celebrate the equipping presence of the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ

OUR CONGREGATION

The peak Apostles' membership was 500 adults in 2012. And our highest average Sunday attendance was 628 in 2015. Over the years, Apostles has also established several daughter churches, including the February 2012 plant of Redeemer Anglican in Raleigh—with nearly 150 adults and children being sent out from our church body.

Since planting Redeemer, our average attendance has ranged between 450 and 540—with membership currently around 400 adults. Today, Apostles is an aging congregation—with the number of children declining 50% from a high of 141 in 2014 to 84 prior to the Covid-19 period. Given this, we seek a Senior Pastor who can provide leadership and oversight to stabilize and grow ministry to people in every age group.

FINANCES

Generosity is another attribute of Church of the Apostles.

Since 1999, Apostles has aimed at the following guidelines for our annual operating budget:

- Staff salaries & benefits: 48-53%
- Occupancy & Furnishings: 15%
- Administration & Miscellaneous: 5-10%
- Missions & Outreach: 18-23% (Including our tithe to our diocese)

OUR MINISTRIES

While Apostles offers a full slate of ministry opportunities, we seek to place particular significance on our Children and Youth ministries as we move into the next season of congregational life. Here, the goal is to once again engage younger families.

Children

Apostles is committed to consistent teaching and congregational discipleship to build a broad vision and capacity for serving within the children's ministry. We believe that a vibrant children's ministry depends on the entire congregation working in tandem with a strong children's ministry leadership team. Our goal is for the Apostles' children's ministry to support the family in raising up and equipping young disciples of Jesus Christ. Sunday morning offerings should be a highlight of teaching and worship that continues throughout the week at home and in family small groups. Our congregation hungers for solid pastoral care and general support in the context of modern-day family life pressures and myriad challenges that seek to derail raising children in the ways of the Lord in an increasingly hostile culture.

Youth

Apostles youth ministry should provide a safe and highly relational environment where our youth are able to consider, explore and even question the relevance of the Christian faith in context of an increasingly post-Christian culture. We want to provide our youth with a greater level of engagement, contact, pastoral care, and understanding of the youth we serve to keep our ministry to them fresh and relevant. Apostles wants to offer a high youth leader to student ratio, with highly relational leaders who are pursuing Jesus Christ and discipling our youth as they build life-long relationships with our students.

OUR MISSIONS COMMITMENT

We believe in the calling of all Christians to exercise their God-given gifts in ministry, and to work, witness, and suffer for Christ; together with the particular call of ordained ministers, who, by preaching, teaching, and pastoral care, are to equip God's people for his service, and to present them mature in Christ.

18-23 % of the church budget is dedicated to local and international missions. This figure includes 10% giving to the Diocese as part of this total mission commitment.

Further, we believe that mission outreach through selected partners is a reflection of a spiritually healthy and mature congregation. As such, our goal is to be a truly healthy, well-formed, and well-cared for body of believers from which mission spills over into loving our neighbors and making disciples.

Current mission partners include:

Domestic

- Neighbor 2 Neighbor
- Gateway Women’s Care
- House of Hope
- Jobs for Life
- JourneyMates
- Justice Matters
- Neighbor Health
- Camp Oak Hill
- Community Hope, Triangle YMCA
- Gideon International
- Hope Reins
- International Friends, North Carolina State University
- Raleigh Young Life
- Refugee Hope Partners
- Safe Families of Raleigh
- The Encouraging Place

International

- Gikomero, Sister Church in **Rwanda**

In 2009 Apostles established a long-term relationship through a partnership with the Gikomero Parish in Rwanda. The purpose of the partnership is to foster deep and abiding relationships and ongoing mutual interaction for the furtherance of the Gospel and mutual growth in Christ. Since 2008, Apostles has sent 10 teams to Rwanda for short-term trips, and we have hosted numerous members of the Gikomero Parish in Raleigh.

- Potter’s House in Guatemala City, Guatemala
- CCX, a ministry of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in Ukraine

CHURCH PLANTING

Church of the Apostles began as a church plant, and planting new churches has been our heartbeat from the beginning. This means that Church of the Apostles is not just giving to the Diocese, which in turn plants churches, but we are personally and directly investing in church planting. Indeed, over the past 20 years, Apostles has reaffirmed our commitment to church planting at crucial junctures in our history—acknowledging the cost and responsibility as well as our calling. The purchase of our current facility—with its hemmed in physical location in a rapidly developing area of Raleigh—meant congregational growth would necessarily require church planting. Here, Apostles has an inconsistent track record and is currently praying through what the next season of our journey as a church-planting congregation looks like.

In 2005—during the transition from Terrell Glenn to Patrick Dominguez as Senior Pastor—Apostles released a group of eight families to plant a new church closer to their homes in Chapel Hill/Durham. That church, All Saints, continues to serve as a faithful Anglican Church.

Then in 2010, Apostles sent a group out for a new plant in North Raleigh. This effort was unsuccessful, which was very difficult for us as a congregation. However, we learned valuable lessons about moving in haste and failing to provide more careful oversight to new work.

In 2015, we planted Redeemer Anglican in downtown Raleigh—sending 38 families (including 80 adults and 60 children) which made up over \$170,000 in revenue for Apostles. We also supported the plant by helping finish numerous leadership and ministry roles, as well as a gifted pastor in Rev. Ford Jordan to lead the effort.

Most recently, in 2017, we sent Rev. Curt Solomon and his family to Wilmington, NC, to plant Christ Our Hope Anglican. Curt had served with Church of the Apostles since 2005. As the Lord opened doors for Curt and the team to plant, Apostles continues to walk alongside by helping with his assessment, training, and coaching.

In 2018 and 2019, a new Anglican pastor Jay Traylor served and trained on staff as a church planter in residence. The original goal was to plant a church in the local area similar to the Redeemer plant. In light of the resignation of our senior pastor, Jay and the LC decided to not pursue a local plant and instead support other planting efforts in the diocese. In January of 2020, Jay and his wife Elizabeth moved to Staunton VA to start Restoration Church as part of planting efforts in the Shenandoah Valley.

OUR GOVERNANCE

Church of the Apostles has spiritual oversight and guidance from Bishop of the ACNA Diocese of the Carolinas. Under the oversight of the Bishop, the Senior Pastor is responsible for, and has charge of, the spiritual health and wellbeing, mission and ministry strategies, discipleship and leadership development, worship ministries, and the performance of duties by all members of the staff of Church of the Apostles. Within Anglican polity, the Bishop directly cares for and supports the church by a regular rhythm of pastoral ministry, spiritual guidance, and mobilization of resources to support and strengthen the Senior pastor, clergy, ministry staff, and lay leaders in their calling. The Senior Pastor is responsible for hiring and supervising staff.

The Senior Pastor is advised and supported in his leadership of the church by the Leadership Council, comprised of nine members elected from the congregation. While the Senior Pastor chairs the LC, it, in turn, complements the governance of the church as advisers, counselors, practical ministry leaders, and prayer partners alongside the Senior Pastor. Therefore, members of the LC are people of demonstrable spiritual maturity and wisdom, evidential leadership gifts, and proven investment in the people and ministries of Apostles. They are elected to serve three-year terms. Annually, a discernment team is appointed to receive nominations for the LC, review applications, and conduct interviews. The team then provides a slate of candidates to the church for approval at the annual meeting.

Leadership Council

Jane Barnes

Michael Mangum

Bryon Boulton, Senior Lay Leader
Bishop Terrell Glenn, Interim Senior Pastor
Jim Whited, Treasurer
Barbara Wilson

Hunt Davis, Junior Lay Leader
Laura Hearn
Frank Shell, Secretary

OUR CITY: RALEIGH

- 2nd most family-friendly city
- 2nd best quality of life in the world
- 2nd in top 100 best places to live
- 3rd best city for millennials to relocate
- 61% projected population growth by 2046
- 76 people move to the region every day
- 37 median age
- \$76,557 regional median household income
- 10 colleges and universities in the region

Our Neighborhood: Midtown / North Hills

Our block has exploded since we moved in: 93,000+ square feet of office space, 125+ retailers, 30+ restaurants, 1,800+ residences, 272 hotel rooms, and 6,500+ parking spaces. Within a 1-mile radius of the Midtown / North Hills area, 44,000+ people live, work and stay. Just across the street from our church, there are 400 residential units and 550,000 square feet of office space which will be completed by Fall of 2021.

Over \$1.5 billion in assets have been invested in the area around our church building. Put simply, the Lord has entrusted us with a lot.

OUR FUTURE

As Midtown Raleigh continues to grow, our calling and responsibility is to make disciples and live as witnesses to this community. We are eager and prayerful as we search for a new Senior Pastor who can help to lead us to clarity and focus with respect to our vision and biblical values.

SENIOR PASTOR PROFILE

As we enter into a new season of congregational life together, we eagerly seek to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in identifying a new senior pastor to guide our church body and help clarify and sharpen our call to make disciples in Raleigh and beyond.

Our Senior Pastor will embody the Apostles' Essentials from page one.

While recognizing that no human has strengths in all of these areas; we seek a Senior Pastor who has strengths in the areas identified as a priority for the seasons ahead. There is a baseline of level of proficiency any serious candidate must have for each category.

Sr. Pastor Profile					 CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES <small>Raleigh, North Carolina</small>
Character / Personal Life	Worship / Preaching / Teaching	Leadership / Discipleship	Pastoral Care	Missional	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotionally healthy in relationship to God, self, and others • Intimate relationship with God marked by a clear devotion to regular spiritual disciplines • Humble, Trustworthy, Prayerful, Patient, Selfless • Models strong familial relationships • Careful and observant listener, high emotional intelligence and engages perceptively with others 	<p>Biblically rich, exegetical sermons marked by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wise, skillful, clear, dynamic, approachable • Doctrinally orthodox and sound, theologically intelligent • Passion for Jesus and proclaiming the Word • Strong reliance on prayer and guidance of the Holy Spirit • Cultural relevance that leads to action and confidence to tackle hard topics • Intergenerational worship focused <p>Understands the purpose of Anglican polity, liturgy and practices, while wise at contextualization of Anglicanism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentional developer-supervisor of clergy and staff • Collaborative leader who generously shares responsibility for leadership • Builds cohesive, diverse teams utilizing and understanding the unique strengths and gifts of staff and congregation • Develops and articulates a clear compelling vision, mission, and values that motivates others to action • Leads effectively, even in situations characterized by uncertainty or dissonance • Understands discipleship as a dynamic developmental process across the life-span • Biblical, clear and creative in implementing churchwide discipleship structure and process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empathic, Gracious, Gentle, Good-humored, Authentic, Relational • Makes sure the flock is known and eager to care for God's people • Graciously exhorts the church toward uncomfortable, gritty, sacrificial, self-denying discipleship • Understands appropriate biblical response to crisis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages and models evangelistic witness locally, nationally, and globally • Helps the church understand that God intends for the gospel to restore relational brokenness across all divisions including racial • Helps the church join God in his care for the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the immigrant. 	

Character / Personal Life

- Emotionally healthy in relationship to God, self, and others
- Intimate relationship with God marked by a clear devotion to regular spiritual disciplines
- Humble, trustworthy, prayerful, patient, selfless
- A mature faith that has been shaped by adversity, sorrow, or struggle.
- Deep conviction regarding the power of prayer personally and in the church
- Understands the importance of strong familial relationships and models that for others
- If married, the Sr. Pastor and his wife have a unified sense of God's call on them as a couple.
- Careful and observant listener who exhibits high emotional intelligence and engages perceptively with others

Worship, Teaching, Preaching

Biblically rich, exegetical sermons marked by the following:

- Wise, skillful, clear, dynamic, approachable
- Doctrinally orthodox and sound, theologically intelligent, while also socially and relationally gifted
- Inspires deeper faith in others because of passion for Jesus and proclaiming the Word
- Strong reliance on prayer and guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Cultural relevance that leads to action and confidence to tackle hard topics
- Develops preaching gifts of others

Leadership / Disciple-Maker

- Understands the purpose of Anglican polity, liturgy, and practices, while wise at contextualization of Anglicanism.
- Intentional developer-supervisor of clergy and staff
- Collaborative leader who generously shares responsibility for preaching, leadership, and influence easily with others
- Builds cohesive, diverse teams utilizing and understanding the unique strengths and gifts of staff and congregation
- Develops and articulates a clear compelling vision, mission, and values that motivates others to action
- Manages change and ambiguity: leads effectively, even in situations characterized by uncertainty or dissonance
- Exhibits the ability to organize others and facilitate a project or proposal through to completion, by making sound, timely decisions
- Biblical, clear, and creative in implementing churchwide discipleship structure and process
- Understands discipleship as a dynamic developmental process across the life-span

Pastoral Care

- Empathic, gracious, gentle, good-humored, authentic, relational
- Makes sure the flock is known and is eager to care for and serve God's people
- Graciously exhorts the church toward uncomfortable, gritty, sacrificial, self-denying discipleship
- Understands appropriate biblical response to crisis, such as abuse of power, people, or resources in the church

Missional

- Encourages and models evangelistic witness—locally, nationally, and globally
- Helps the church understand that God intends for the Gospel to restore relational brokenness across all divisions including racial
- Helps the church join God in His care for the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the immigrant

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY

Church of the Apostles By-Laws

Church of the Apostles By-Laws were written to encourage and require an engaged and knowledgeable congregation. **Since our inception, members at** Apostles have been expected to be engaged both serving on a ministry team and as a member of a community group.

Responsibilities of members: (from by-laws)

A Member of Apostles is one who:

- *Has a personal faith in Jesus Christ;*
- *Is baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;*
- *Has completed a Membership class*
- *Is committed to and actively participates in the Vision and Values of Apostles*

Membership Covenant:

I believe that I have been led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Apostles church family. Therefore I make the following commitments to God and my church family:

1. With God's help, I will share in the life of my church

- ...by faithfully attending worship services;*
- ...by joining in regular fellowship with other church family members;*
- ...by growing in faith and godliness;*
- ...by regular personal prayer and scripture reading;*
- ...by praying for its growth, its health, its people, and its leaders;*
- ...by generous giving.*

2. With God's help, I will protect the peace and unity of my church

- ...by committing to love and truth in my relationships with others;*
- ...by pursuing reconciliation with other church family members when needed;*
- ...by refusing to gossip and instead speaking well of others;*
- ...by supporting and following Godly leadership.*

3. With God's help, I will serve the ministry of my church

- ...by developing a servant's heart and a willingness to learn;*
- ...by discovering my gifts and talents and using them in ministry.*

4. With God's help, I will support the mission of my church

- ...by inviting the unchurched to attend;*
- ...by becoming prepared to share my faith;*
- ...by warmly welcoming our guests;*
- ...by going beyond our membership to minister to others.*