

It is our sincere hope that together we will grow deeper in Christ and further in mission. *The Meaning of Membership: Deeper in Christ. Further in Mission. Together.* is designed to be covered in four sessions, yet we recognize this format will not work for everyone.

To the right are suggestions for condensing these resources into a one-session membership class.

The Leader's Guide and PowerPoint presentations are adaptable to fit your church's context. We recommend using portions of each session's Leader's Guide in order to cover the four intersecting dimensions of mission.

Session One: The Mission of God

- Purpose of *The Meaning of Membership*
- Format of *The Meaning of Membership*
- Why Membership?
- One-on-One Introductions
- God's Story: God's Mission to You (presentation of the gospel)
- Reflecting on God's Story
- The Mission of God: God's Mission through You

Session Two: The Mission of the Covenant

- Mission of the ECC: Introduction
- Summarize "Our Roots" by presenting the denominational tree diagram (see PowerPoint and Appendices) and by speaking to the continuing influences of the ECC
- Mission of the ECC: Our Core Beliefs (Covenant affirmations)
- Summarize the "Mission of the ECC and the Ministry of Our Church" (denominational and conference purpose and structure; five mission priorities)
- Distinctives of the ECC

Session Three: The Mission of Our church

- Biblical Images for the Local Church
- Who We Are—The History and Structure of Our Church
- Where We're Going—Preview of the Future
- Get Connected—Pathways to Deeper Involvement

Session Four: The Mission of the Member

- Why Join a Church?
- Summarize "Reasons for Joining the Church"
- Summarize and contextualize "What Does it Mean to Be a Member?"
- Decision to Become a Member
- Going Deeper

We recommend providing a copy of the **introduction and Sessions One through Four Participant's Guide** to each participant so that each person can follow along with the content, take notes, and consider next steps during the class.

