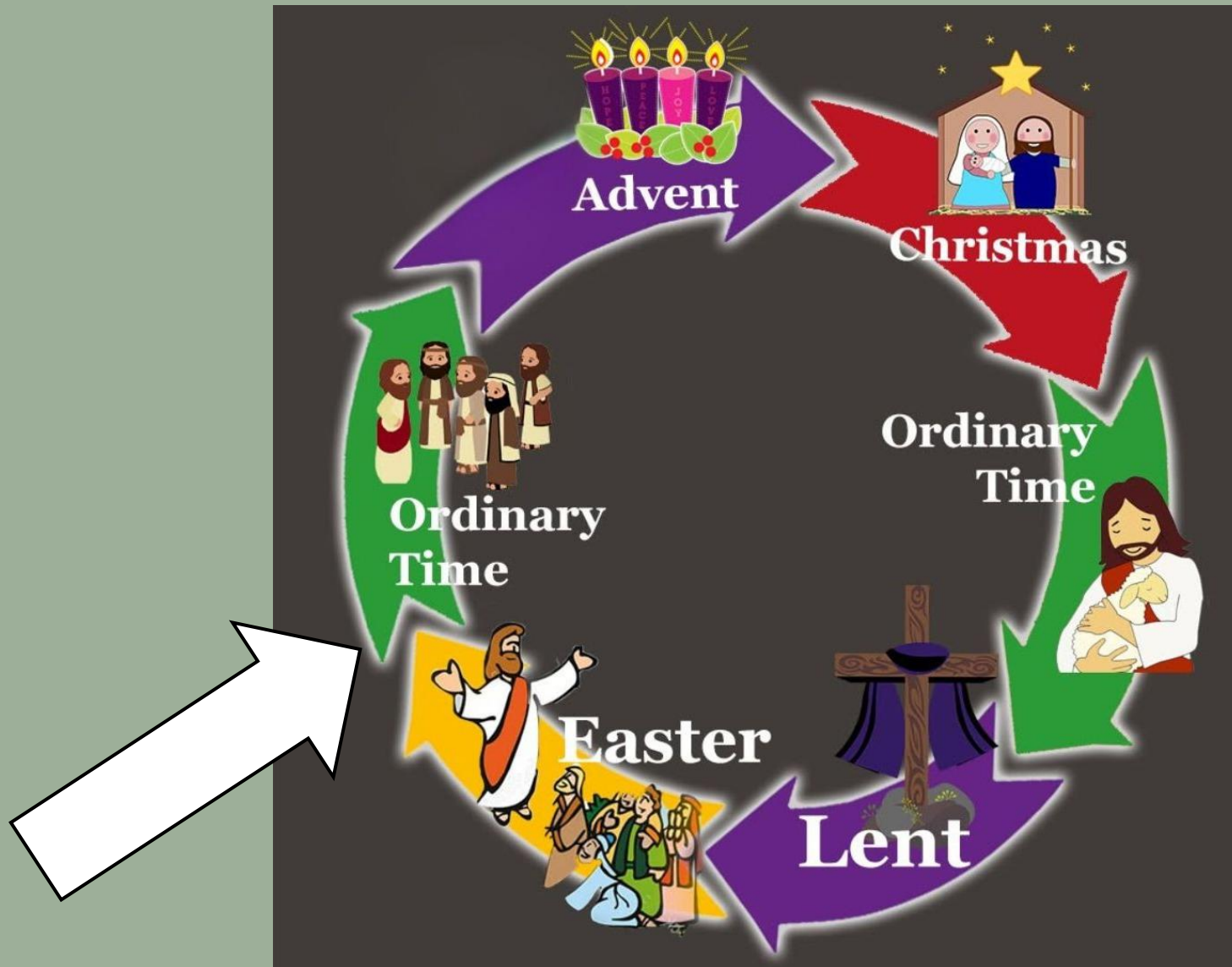


The Liturgical Calendar





LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

8 GREAT THINGS ABOUT BEING A CHURCH MEMBER



belong



welcome



gather



care



serve



honour



witness



send



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

**“God loves his gathered people.
It was only to form his church that
the Father sent the Son, that the Son
went to the cross, and that the Father
and Son sent the Spirit.”**

(Chris Green)



belong



welcome



gather



care



serve



honour



witness



send



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

(Acts 2:42)



belong



welcome



gather



care



serve



honour



witness



send

“They devoted themselves...” (Acts 2:42)



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

CHURCH

kyriakon

‘The Lord’s’



belong



welcome



gather



care



serve



honour



witness



send

“They devoted themselves...” (Acts 2:42)



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

CHURCH

kyriakon

‘The Lord’s’

ecclesia

‘assembly’ or ‘gathering’



belong



welcome



gather



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witness



send



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

**What's on
your mind
today?**





LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

8 GREAT THINGS ABOUT BEING A CHURCH MEMBER



belong



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gather



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send



LOVE
YOUR
CHURCH

8 GREAT THINGS ABOUT BEING A CHURCH MEMBER



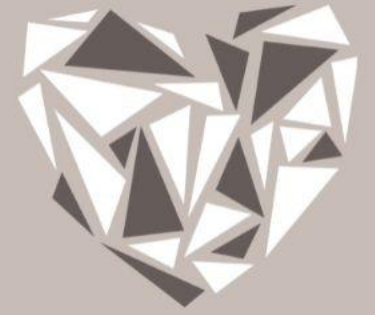
belong



welcome



gather



care



serve



honour



witness



send



belong

LOVING YOUR CHURCH

BY REFLECTING CHRIST TO ONE ANOTHER

We Long For Belonging



belong

We Long For Belonging





Sin Separates Us From God & Others

“As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live ... gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts ... remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth ... at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.”

(Ephesians 2:1-12)





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BUT NOW...



Jesus Unites Us With God & Others

“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.”

(Ephesians 2:14-16)





One Temple – One Nation – One Family

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”

(Ephesians 2:19-22)



Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?



belong

Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?

Sensationalism – chasing the extraordinary





Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?

Sensationalism – chasing the extraordinary

“The endless search for something bigger, greater, and more extraordinary is in the end exhausting. We need a renewal of Christians who are wholly committed to living out basic Christianity with their faith family.”

(Tony Merida)



Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?

Sensationalism – chasing the extraordinary

Mysticism – spirituality without community





Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?

Sensationalism – chasing the extraordinary

Mysticism – spirituality without community

“To be best placed to experience Jesus in a deep, fresh, life-changing way, you don’t need a perch in the desert; you need a pew in a church.”

(Tony Merida)





Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?

Sensationalism – chasing the extraordinary

Mysticism – spirituality without community

Idealism – loving the dream more than the church





Why Is It So Difficult To Belong?

Sensationalism – chasing the extraordinary

Mysticism – spirituality without community

Idealism – loving the dream more than the church

Individualism – becoming consumers





What Does It Mean To Belong?

~~Sensationalism~~ – chasing the extraordinary
celebrating ordinary faithfulness

~~Mysticism~~ – spirituality without community
spiritual growth within community

~~Idealism~~ – loving the dream more than the church
loving the church despite its flaws

~~Individualism~~ – becoming consumers
participating and serving in the church



belong



Belonging as Gospel Witness

“His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

(Ephesians 3:10-11)





belong

LOVING YOUR CHURCH

BY REFLECTING CHRIST TO ONE ANOTHER



“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

(Ephesians 3:20-21)





belong

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