

# Eagle Ridge United Church

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## **Adult Profession of Faith (Confirmation) Policy**

Governed by: Session  
Adoption Date: May 30, 2007  
Modification Date: May 16, 2017

### **POLICY:**

1. No one seriously seeking to confirm the baptismal promises made on their behalf when baptized as a child will be turned away.
2. The decision to confirm someone shall in each case be made by the Session.
3. Session is open and willing to confirm anyone who has been adequately prepared for this fulfillment of the sacrament of baptism.
4. Adult professions of faith may only take place within the context of the gathered community at worship, except in cases of emergency.
5. All adult professions of faith will be presided over by a settled minister of the congregation unless arrangements are made for another minister to co-preside.

### **RATIONALE:**

When a child is baptized, the parent(s) or guardian(s) make the decision to dedicate that child's life to Jesus and his church. When that child gets to an age where they are fully capable of making that decision for themselves, they are encouraged to confirm the baptismal vows that were made on their behalf. This adult profession of faith requires that the person understand what Christian discipleship entails and be willing to commit to striving toward becoming a fully mature follower of Jesus. Specifically, this means they promise to practice the Christian life within the context of a Christian community. They should be willing to commit to coming to worship, being an active part of the community of faith, and growing their faith by participating in the learning opportunities offered.

Just as in baptism, the congregation will also stand and make solemn promises to help nurture, support, and encourage that person in the faith. We do not expect our congregation to make this serious commitment to any adult they do not know.

### **WHAT CONSTITUTES "ADEQUATE PREPARATION" FOR BAPTISM OR ADULT PROFESSION OF FAITH (CONFIRMATION)?**

Those who request to make an adult profession of faith are required to be adequately prepared, normally involving all of the following:

- a) an appointment with the Minister;
- b) regular attendance at Sunday worship;
- c) completion of an introductory course on Christianity or equivalent;
- d) completion of our "Exploring Baptism" and "Exploring Membership" courses.