

## WHY CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP?

You can attend Valley Chapel.

You can serve here.  
You can grow here.  
Many people do.

But sometimes, a moment comes when a follower of Jesus begins to wonder:

*“Is God inviting me to do more than participate?”*

*“Is He asking me to help carry our mission?”*

That’s where **PARTNERSHIP** begins.

Partnership is the step where someone says:

*“Our mission is my mission, and my mission is our mission”*

It's not about gaining access or perks.  
It's not about proving you belong here.

It's about taking responsibility for the mission we share.

## YOUR NEXT STEP

If you sense God may be inviting you to take this step, the next step is simple:

**Schedule a conversation with  
Pastor Ryan.**

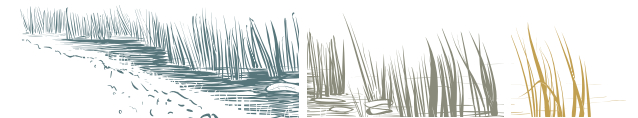
This is not some test or interview. It’s simply a chance to **explore together** whether Partnership might be the next step God has for you.

- Ask questions about Partnership
- Share your story and journey with Christ
- Learn about the Free Methodist Way
- Explore the mission and leadership of Valley Chapel
- Discuss our Articles of Religion and core beliefs
- Understand how the Book of Discipline guides our shared life
- Discern whether Partnership is your next step

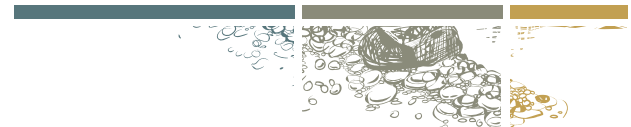
Start the conversation



# BECOMING A PARTNER



“A Spirit-led community where the burdened are invited to be steadily formed by encounters with Christ”



**FROM ATTENDANCE TO MISSION**  
A GUIDE TO DISCERNING YOUR NEXT  
STEP IN THE MISSION OF JESUS

# WHAT IS A PARTNER?

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Partners are the people who choose to **take responsibility** for the **health, mission, and future** of this community.

Many people at Valley Chapel attend faithfully, serve generously, lead ministries, and help others follow Jesus. That kind of involvement is deeply valued.

Partnership is a step deeper.

To become a Partner is to say:

- I am a disciple of **Jesus**, seeking to grow in **Him**.
- I am committed to this church community's shared mission to **Love God, Love People, and Make Disciples**.
- I will help carry the responsibility of building this community as a **Free Methodist Church**.

Because of that responsibility, Partners are trusted to help shape the life of the church by *voting in congregational decisions*.

Some also choose to serve in *elected leadership roles*, or even explore a calling to *ordained ministry*.

**Partners** are not **consumers**, observing and assessing from the outside. Instead, partners are responsible for who we are and what we do.

Partners say **“we,”** not **“they.”**

# THE 3 PRACTICES

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Partnership is not just something you say. It is something we practice together.

Partners take responsibility for the mission, and these three practices help sustain that mission.

## 1. WORSHIP REGULARLY

Partners prioritize **gathered worship** and seek to be present as often as possible, because worship is the primary way we **encounter Christ** together and are shaped as His people.

## 2. PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY

Partners **invest** their time, gifts, and presence in the life of the church—serving, building relationships, and helping others follow Jesus—because the mission of the church is carried by **people, not programs**.

## 3. GIVE CONSISTENTLY

Partners steward their financial resources in support of God's Kingdom. They do this by giving **regularly** and **prayerfully**, so our mission to Love God, Love People, and Make Disciples can continue and grow.

These practices are not **expectations** imposed by leadership.

They are **commitments** we make to one another so our shared mission can flourish.

# THE 5 PROMISES

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When someone becomes a Partner at Valley Chapel, they publicly answer “yes” to the historic membership questions of the Free Methodist Church. These questions have guided Free Methodists for generations. They are not about joining a club—they are about declaring your faith in Jesus and your commitment to live as part of this expression of His church.

## 1. Faith in Jesus Christ

You confess that through Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and that you are trusting Him as your Savior.

## 2. Trust in the Scriptures

You believe the Bible is God's Word and accept its authority for what you believe and how you live.

## 3. A Life Shaped by Christ

By God's grace, you commit to grow in Christlike character, following the guidance of Scripture, the Holy Spirit, and the church.

## 4. Unity with the Free Methodist Church

You accept the teachings and shared life of the Free Methodist Church as described in the Book of Discipline and seek to live in harmony with them.

## 5. Participation in the Mission

You embrace the mission of the Free Methodist Church within and beyond this congregation, committing your time, gifts, and resources to help us carry out that mission.