

## Christ Church Twin Cities Distinctives - Who We Are

### Overview:

We are a 100-person suburban church made up of families, young adults, and many young children. We value our Covenantal, Presbyterian, and Reformed heritage as well as Christian education, a celebratory culture, robust biblical instruction, and singing. Even though our label is “reformed,” we want the words “warm and [hospitable](#)” to be synonymous. While we seek unity in leadership regarding our standards of faith ([Westminster Confession](#) and [Three Forms of Unity](#)), we accept diversity in membership convictions on eschatology and baptism. We are all unified under the banner of Christ, [who is the door to the church](#).

### Christ Church Twin Cities Distinctives:

**Celebratory** - Celebrations are a seriously [joyful](#) business to us. From baptisms to enthusiastically attended baby showers, and even how loudly we sing Happy Birthday to one another at fellowship meals, we love [feasting and celebrating with one another](#). As much as we enjoy gathering to share meals, we do take the first Sunday of the month off, as well as the Sundays near holidays to accommodate for travel and busy schedules. In addition to these regular celebrations, we also host some larger gatherings:

- Annual winter ball
- Reformation celebration
- Summer picnics

**Family-oriented** - Our families are active, civic-minded, and Biblically literate. Gratefully, [in leading their families](#), men strive to [emulate Christ](#) in His leadership and servant attitude. While the women of the church wear many hats, all are [devoted to their homes and children](#). We are passionate about [distinctly Christian education](#), through homeschooling and/or a classical Christian school such as Agape Christi Academy. Our families take seriously their role in [training up their children](#) in the faith. A few other ways to describe our family-oriented congregation:

- Mostly single-income families
- Covenantal
- Pre-service Sunday school classes for all ages

**Growing** - Our long-term desire is to plant more churches in the Twin Cities. [We love babies](#). Over the past two years we have steadily added new families and baptized several children, both older children by immersion, and infants by sprinkling fuzzy heads. We desire to better identify and use [spiritual gifts](#) in our congregation. Other growth opportunities for Christ Church Twin Cities:

- No regular choir, but [would love to have one](#)
- Desire for more involvement in ministries

**Liturgical** - We strive to worship our Lord with a well-thought out [liturgy](#) every Sunday, all orbiting the central theme of Covenant Renewal. Joyful reverence is a difficult balance to find, but we do seek it. Most of us dress up for Sunday service, but our definition of what that means varies from family to family. Our services are accented by the joyful noise of children. [Expository preaching](#) is integral, as are [the songs we sing](#) (as well as [how we sing them](#)), creeds we recite, and the [weekly sharing of communion](#). Other distinctives of our liturgy:

- Sing hymns, Psalms, monthly Psalm sings
- We use wine in communion

**Outreach** - Even though we are small, we are mightily mission-minded, both in our financial support and in our sending out. Many of us serve in ministries, and we desire to continue growing in our service to one another and [the communities around us](#). Two members, including an Elder, work for [Training Leaders International](#) which equips church leaders across the globe. Another Elder is employed by [Minnesota Family Council](#) as Director of the Church Ambassador Network, and we are always delighted by his updates of the going ons at the Capitol. Several families visit the local Planned Parenthood to pray for and talk with women there. While many families are evangelistic in different ways, we seek to increase our efforts and effectiveness [to reach the lost](#). Other outreach efforts include:

- Growing men's/women's ministry
- Showing hospitality