



“Then we will grow in every way and be more like Christ (Eph. 4:15).” Being a follower of Jesus Christ is a lifelong process of growing in faith. And Jesus invites us to be a part of his spiritual body, the Church, in order to help us grow. This Fall we will explore different aspects of our membership covenant, which is a list of the basic elements of Christian living. Each Sunday will focus on a passage from the Gospel of Luke to help us deepen our faith.

Worship Schedule

August 15—Disciples Grow by Welcoming—Luke 5:27-32

August 22—Disciples Grow by Worshipping—Luke 7:36-50

August 29—Disciples Grow by Studying—Luke 24:13-35

September 5—Disciples Grow by Giving—Luke 19:1-10; 21:1-4

September 12—Disciples Grow by Serving—Luke 10:1-12

September 19—Disciples Grow by Praying—Luke 11:5-13

September 26—Disciples Grow by Caring—Luke 5:17-26

Notes on the Gospel of Luke

Luke is part one of a two part series which includes the Book of Acts.

Author: The Gospel itself never gives the name of its author. Tradition, dating back to Irenaeus in 185 A.D., claimed that it was written by Luke, ‘the Beloved Physician’ (Col. 4:14). The author was probably a second or third generation Christian because he was not an eyewitness (Lk. 1:2). He may have been a traveling companion of Paul. Given his use of language, he was well educated. He had a thorough knowledge of the Greek translation of the Old Testament, which implies that he had been either a Hellenistic Jewish convert (a Jew not born in Palestine) or a gentile convert.

Date: Luke was written after Mark and uses Mark as a basic outline. Probably from 80-90 A.D.

Purpose: It is addressed to a Greek person (Theophilus) who was a believer and was written for Christian readers. They were probably like the author, gentile or Greek-speaking Jewish converts.

Themes:

- Luke-Acts sees history in three periods—time of Israel (included John the Baptist), the time of Jesus, and the time of the church.
- The Temple plays an important role in the Gospel.
- Equality and compassion for the poor is emphasized.
- Prayer
- Forgiveness

Outline:

Prologue	1:1-4
Infancy Stories	1:5-2:52
Preparation for Ministry Stories	3:1-4:13
Ministry in Galilee Stories	4:14-9:50
Trip to Jerusalem Stories	9:51-19:44
Ministry in Jerusalem Stories	19:45-21:38
Passion Story	22:1-23:56
Easter Story	24:1-53

Membership Covenant

(Adopted by Charge Conference on November 14, 2005)

Speedway United Methodist Church is committed to helping every member become a disciple of Jesus Christ. By God’s grace, each member, as they are able, will:

Actively welcome all persons into the life of the church

Attend worship regularly

Study the faith together

Establish a regular pattern of financial giving

Serve in a ministry, committee or activity once a year

Pray regularly for the church, its members, and its leaders

When any member is physically, financially, or mentally unable to fulfill this covenant, we pledge to support them with our prayers and presence, gifts and service.