

Just as sister denominations establish formal bonds of fellowship with each other without seeking organic unions, so it is proper under certain circumstances for churches to establish formal bonds of fellowship with individual Christians who worship regularly with the church but who, for good and necessary reasons, do not join the church. To that end the consistory hereby establishes the following regulations:

Student/Associate memberships shall be open to all persons who are professing or baptized members in good standing in a Christian church of the Reformed or Presbyterian faith. Such persons must be planning to worship with us for an extended period of time, but who, for reasons judged acceptable by the consistory, do not desire to transfer their membership to our church. Circumstances which may be found acceptable can include college and seminary students who maintain contact with their home church, ministers of other denominations who need to maintain their status in their denominations, and persons whose stay in this area is temporary and has a fixed termination date.

An associate membership should never be used as a trial membership, as a first step toward full membership, or as a means of avoiding the responsibilities of full membership. Associate members who are college or seminary students shall be called student members.

Associate members shall be served with all appropriate Christian counsel and shall be encouraged to participate in all the societies and ministries of the church in accordance with their gifts. Professing associate members are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper. Children are encouraged to participate in all appropriate ministries. The primary financial obligation of associate members is to their home church.

The following limitations shall be placed on such members: they shall not vote in congregational meetings, they may not serve in the ordained office of the church, and they shall not be counted in formal membership statistics. Baptism for the children of associate members shall only be administered with the permission of the member's home church and shall be recorded as a baptism of that church.

All who desire to become associate members should submit a request to the consistory, giving the name and address of their home church, their local address, the names of all members of the household and the grade level of any children. If the request for associate membership is approved, they shall be welcomed publicly and a worship service and their names and addresses printed in the next newsletter and the next directory. Associate members shall be listed in the directory along with regular members and with an appropriate designation that they are associate members.

Associate members shall not be subject to formal discipline beyond silent censure. However, the list of associate members shall be reviewed annually at the December consistory meeting, and any who no longer qualify for associate membership shall have their names removed from the list.

Note: If you were a student member with us last year, and desire to be a student member with us again, please enter your name and make any appropriate changes (if needed) on the form.

Student Membership/ Associate Membership

2015 - 2016

**Sioux Center United
Reformed Church
Regulations**

**Sioux Center United Reformed Church
227 1st Ave S.E.
Sioux Center, IA 51250-1522**

**www.siouxcenterurc.org
712-722-1965**

08-15-14

Request Form (please print legibly)

Today's Date _____

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children : _____

Please indicate with an asterisk (*) who are professing members.

Phone Contact : _____

E-mail: _____

Preferred Password: _____
(for access to Church Website)

Home Address: _____

Home Church and city / town location of home church:
(please indicate denomination affiliation)

Students

Are you a professing Member? _____

School Attending: _____

Major Field of Study: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____