

# Baptism, Marriage and Membership Search Request Form

This service provides a record of a baptism, marriage, or membership *for living persons*. Information on deceased persons is only provided when necessary for the settlement of an estate or survivor benefits.  
Please read the information below carefully before sending us your search request.

To begin the search, we require the signature of the person whose record we are looking up. For marriages, we need the signature of one of the two individuals in the marriage; in the case of minor children or other guardianship situations, the signature of the legal guardian is accepted. If we have the records for the church you specify, we will search the records for a baptism, marriage, or membership and mail you a letter reporting the information found and bearing the seal of the Presbyterian Historical Society. If we cannot locate a record, we will notify you in writing. Our letter of attestation is generally acceptable to church and legal authorities. We do not make photocopies of the actual records due to their unique and fragile nature.

For the society to provide you with a letter of attestation, you must first supply us with the correct name and location of the church. There are no centralized denominational registers of church baptisms, marriages, or memberships for Presbyterian churches.

For baptisms, you must supply us with the name and date of birth of the person baptized; the name of the father and mother and the approximate date of the baptism are also useful. For membership, we require a name of the member and approximate date the member joined the congregation. *Please note that a membership attestation is used for a record of confirmation.* For marriages, you must supply us with the names of the bride and groom and approximate date of marriage.

Occasionally there may be discrepancies between what you expect to find and the information as it was recorded, such as a given date or the spelling of a name. We are obliged to transcribe the information exactly as it was entered into the official records. We are not authorized to change information.

Name of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of the church (City, State): \_\_\_\_\_

*For a baptism:*

Name of person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of father: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of mother: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

*For a marriage:*

Name of groom: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of bride: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

*For a membership:*

Name of member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of confirmation/membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Address where the letter of attestation should be sent (please print clearly):

Name:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_

If we need to contact you, please provide your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
and your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your request to:  
Presbyterian Historical Society  
425 Lombard St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
Or fax to:  
215-627-0115

[www.history.pcusa.org](http://www.history.pcusa.org)  
[refdesk@history.pcusa.org](mailto:refdesk@history.pcusa.org)

