

# Pastor Mike's Bookshelf

*September 7<sup>th</sup> 2023*



## **I Am a Church Member: Discover the Attitude that Makes a Difference**

*By Thom Rainer*

In a time of hyper-individualism along with a general distrust of institutions, the notion of “church membership” can seem rather quaint and outmoded to some, a relic from a different era. Many take a consumerist approach to congregational life – taking part in and benefiting from certain programs and ministries but opting out of making a commitment that involves working and serving to make those ministries happen.

Thom Rainer has put together a very helpful little booklet that explains what church membership means, and why it is an important part of our lives as Christians, as well as the health of the faith community as a whole. Pushing back against some of the individualist trends of the culture, as well as the “country

club” mentality that has plagued many congregations, Rainer describes very practically how pursuing an active church membership strengthens our discipleship, the health of the church and the mission of God.

I recommend this book for every member of St. John’s, as well as those considering membership. It’s a very brief read, only 78 pages, and will only take an hour or two to read. There are several copies of this book, along with previously recommended books on the Church Library cart in the Narthex, available for checking out.

Previous recommendations can be found here: [\*\*Pastor Mike’s Bookshelf\*\*](#).