

FAQ for St. James UMC Community Pickleball

What is it? Pickleball has been described as a mashup between tennis, ping pong and badminton in that it's played over a net and can be hit in the air or on a bounce from the court. The court is roughly half the size of a standard tennis court.

Why is it growing so rapidly? It is easy to learn and fun to play, It is safe (mostly), great exercise, easier on the knees than tennis, and a very social activity.

What kind of paddle and ball do I need? We have loaner paddles and balls available for anyone to use. Paddles range from \$40 to \$200 and balls \$2.

What should I wear? Similar to tennis, any loose, comfortable, activewear is fine. Some people purchase special court shoes but running shoes or cross trainers work.

How does a new player get started? Just come to any of the open play nights. You will get a briefing on the game, understand how to score it and learn some basics about court etiquette. Following this briefing you will get a chance to do some introductory drills and play a game with others who are just getting started.

What is open play? You drop in during court hours and as a game to 11 finishes you rotate into the next game. Partners are picked to make the teams as even as possible for fun games.

What is friendly play? The goal is to have fun. More advanced players help the beginners. The games can be competitive but rules are not argued.