

# 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.