

Members' Covenant

Since, by God the Father's grace, we have repented and believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, confessed our faith through baptism, and been affirmed through church membership, we invite the Holy Spirit's presence as we renew our covenant with God and each other.

Realizing none of us can fulfill this covenant in our own strength, and knowing that Christian maturity happens over a lifetime, we depend fully on God's grace as we:

Devote ourselves to Jesus daily—through Bible reading and meditation, prayer, gratitude, generosity, kindness, and serving others, as we follow the Lord Jesus in daily habits that characterized his earthly life. (John 15:1–11; 1 Tim 4:8; 2 Peter 1:3–11)

Gather with the church—to treasure the gospel by: being present, welcoming others, showing hospitality, praying together, singing, reading Scripture, confessing sin, giving offerings, and receiving baptism and the Lord's Supper because we cannot faithfully follow Jesus alone. (Acts 2:42–47; Rom 15:7; 1 Cor 12:12–27; 2 Cor 8:1–5, 9; Heb 10:24–25; 2 Tim 4:1–2)

Walk together in love as brothers and sisters—a family of sinners saved by grace. We delight in each other and bear each other's burdens; we encourage frequently, admonish gently, and receive correction humbly. We value honesty and openness with each other, resisting the temptation to hide our weaknesses and sins, so that we may experience grace together. (Rom 12:10, 15; Heb 3:13; Gal 6:1–2; Eph 4:15, 29–31; James 5:16; 1 John 1:6–10)

Pursue peace with every member—by listening well, avoiding gossip and sarcasm, making charitable judgments, exercising patience, being slow to take offense, and freely forgiving others as Christ has forgiven us. (Matt 5:9; 18:21–35; Rom 12:9–21; Eph 4:1–3, 32)

Give faithfully, gladly, and generously—of our time, money, skills, and gifts. Along with personal generosity, we will also give to the church budget, which enables us to bless our neighbors, serve the community, resource our church ministries, and invest in mission partners to take the gospel to the ends of the earth. (Matt 28:18–20; Acts 2:44–45; 2 Cor 8:1–9:15)

Serve the Lord and his church—to express our love for Jesus, to affirm God's arrangement of the members of this body, and to embrace the Spirit's endowment of our skills and spiritual gifts. We will also serve wherever we are needed. (Matt 25:14–30; Rom 12:11; 1 Cor 12:12–27)

Share the gospel with others—including our family, our neighbors, and the nations. We will serve and befriend others, practice charity and hospitality, and gently steer conversations toward the gospel, in the power of the Holy Spirit, leaving the results to God. We will disciple our own children, as we seek to lead them to Jesus through wisdom and instruction. (Matt 28:19–20; Mark 1:17; Rom 12:13; 2 Cor 5:18–20; 1 Peter 3:15; Prov 3:1–12; Eph 6:4)

Make disciples and plant churches—in delightful obedience to Jesus' Great Commission. We teach one another in discipleship pairings, small groups, and walking through life together. We also plant and revitalize churches to advance the kingdom of Christ, following the Spirit-led pattern of the apostles. (Matt 28:19-20; Mark 1:17; Acts 13:1-3; 14:21-23)

Actively participate in healthy church life—by engaging in 1) Sunday worship, 2) a Bible study class and/or small group, and 3) Members' Meetings. We also understand that a healthy church practices redemptive church discipline among its leaders and members to please God, to promote reconciliation, and to live with integrity. We are God's holy and beloved people. (Matt 18:15–20; Eph 3:20–21; Col 3:12; Heb 10:25; 13:17)

If we leave this congregation, we will join another gospel-preaching church, as soon as possible. Through life, whatever opposition may come, we will live for God, who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. (Heb 10:24–25; 13:17; Matt 5:11–12; James 1:2; 1 Peter 2:9)

