

Hope Membership Covenant

Having received Jesus Christ into our lives as Lord and Savior and dedicated our lives to Him, we do now, in the presence of God and our Church family as enabled by the grace of God, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other. (1 Cor 1:2, 2 Cor 13:14)

We will eagerly maintain the unity of the Holy Spirit in our Church family by walking together in love and in the Spirit by putting away all bitterness, anger, and divisive gossip. (Eph 4:3, 29, 31)

With humility and gentleness, patience and love, we will be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, even as God the Father, for Christ's sake, has forgiven us. (Eph 4:1-2, Luke 17:3)

We will take responsibility for our own spiritual growth thereby supporting our personal representation of the gospel as well as the testimony of our Church as we are being changed by the gospel. (Phil 1:27, 2 Cor 5:20, 1 Tim 4:7) We anticipate that our spiritual growth will develop within us a love for the Lord; a love for the Lord's people; and a love for the lost. (Mt 22:37-39, Luke 19:10, John 20:21)

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian compassion in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be quick to listen and slow to become angry. (James 1:19-20, Col 3:8-10, 1 Peter 3:8, Eph 6:18)

We will not neglect to gather together but will support and treasure the preaching and teaching of the Bible and the gospel. We will give faithful observance to baptism, the Lord's Supper and the loving exercise of Church discipline. (Heb 10:25, 2 Tim 4:2, 1 Cor 11:26, Gal 6:1)

We will contribute joyfully and generously to the ministry of our Church, the relief of Church members in need, and the advancement of the gospel to both our neighbors and the nations. (Mt 28:19, Mt 6:19, 2 Cor 9:7) We will endeavor to serve the Church with our time and talent. (Gal 5:13, 1 Peter 4:10-11)

We acknowledge and embrace the authority of our pastors, elders and deacons to carry out their shepherding duties in accordance with Scripture. We will support them and pray for them. (Heb 13:17)

We will, if we move from this place, unite as soon as possible with a gospel centered Church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word. (Gal 1:6-9, Rom 16:25-27)

We are a people who possess the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God our Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit for the glory of God. (1 Cor 13:14, Jude 25)