

Ephesus Church
Evangelical . Reformed . Baptist.
Church Covenant

Having, by God's Grace, received Christ as my Lord and Savior and having been baptized, and being in agreement with Ephesus Church's Statement of Faith, leadership structure, ministry strategies and pattern for church life, I now unite with and enter into covenant before God with this congregation of believers.

The Elements of our Covenant are:

1. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- **Living out the "one anothers" of scripture and acting in love towards other members**
Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, (1 Peter 1:22 ESV)
- **Refusing to gossip or cause dissention**
Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. (Ephesians 4:29 ESV)
- **Following the leaders, submitting to the leadership of the Elders (Pastors) in action and heart attitude.**
Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17 ESV)
- **Living a godly life**
Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, (Philippians 1:27 ESV)

2. I WILL SHOW PASSION FOR MY CHURCH BY:

- **Praying for her regularly**
We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, (1 Thessalonians 1:2 ESV)
- **Attending faithfully**
And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV)
- **Inviting the unchurched to attend**
And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. (Luke 14:23 ESV)
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- **Warmly welcoming those who visit, practice hospitality**
Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. (1 Peter 4:9 ESV)
- **Become a discipler of others, sharing the gospel with those God puts in my life path**
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20 ESV)

- **Study the Word of God**

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:42 ESV)

3. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH BY:

- **Discovering my gifts and talents and using them in service**

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: (1 Peter 4:10 ESV)

- **Being ready to serve**

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, (Ephesians 4:11-12 ESV)

- **Developing a servant's heart**

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:4-7 ESV)

- **Staying connected to our spiritual community**

And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, (Acts 2:46 ESV)

- **Bearing the burdens of others**

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2 ESV)

- **Giving sacrificially and joyfully**

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7 ESV)

If I move away I will seek to be united with a faithful, bible believing church and will seek at that time official dismissal from my covenant with the congregation at Ephesus Church.

If I know I am struggling to fulfill this covenant I vow before God that I will in a straightforward way seek counsel with a pastor of the church.

In accordance with Matthew 5:24, if I am hurt by a fellow believer or pastor, I will go to them to resolve the issue. I will not let bitterness and unforgiveness overtake me.

In accordance with Matthew 18:15-18, if I fail in fulfilling this covenant, I understand that the Elders and the congregation will pursue me in love for the purpose of holding me accountable to my vow for the good of my soul.

Before God and before men, I now covenant.

Signature of Member _____ Date _____

Signature of Pastor _____ Date _____