



COMMUNITY COVENANT

WHAT DOES GOD EXPECT OF HIS PEOPLE?

1. **Live a life centered in Christ.** Be spiritually connected and regular at worship. Practice the holy habits of daily Bible reading and daily prayer. Your spiritual nourishment is crucial. You are a growing disciple of Jesus! Be generous toward a generous God. You have been called to serve others with your gifts. God tapped you on the shoulder. You are not here by accident. You are his hands and feet in the world. Let God be real in your day-to-day living.
2. **Be fresh in your love affair with God and His Church.** Believe in its purpose, even though it is comprised of sinners. Have a heart for people; especially the lost, the last, the least, and the lonely. Be deeply involved in the life of CHRIST CHURCH. It's hard to rock the boat when you're rowing. Be excited about what the church is and what we can be.
3. **Let a Missional Focus shape every decision.** The Church is an organization launched by God. When our congregation got started – it was God who was the founder and he is still in charge today. The church is not a country club with a cross on top. The church is the Body of Christ – we are here to do HIS work. Wrestle with what Jesus would do. Be informed, inquisitive, and inspired. The Great Commission (Matthew 28) is for us – we have been sent into the world.
4. **Be graceful to yourself and others.** Given that we're doing HIS work – let's acknowledge that none of us feels really qualified. Willingness and openness are great gifts. We will experience on-the-job training. We will make mistakes. The hard work we do is exercised in the context of Christian Community. We are relational and we seek out opportunities to connect with others, to talk, question, and share.
5. **The Church belongs to God, not us.** Contrary to popular opinion, the church is not here to tend to its members. Jesus painted a very different picture. God is the *owner*. People not here yet are the *customer*. Church members are the *workers* in the organization. Staff members are the *equippers*. We serve for the good of the whole church. Park your ego at the door. See the big picture and focus on building up the Body of Christ.
6. **Speak the truth in love** (Ephesians 4:15). We depend on open and honest sharing of ideas. Lay it out on the table. Everything is to be done above board and discussed in the presence of all. Don't go home and steam about what you wish you had said or done. A meeting after the meeting - in the parking lot – is an unhealthy practice.
7. **Be a person of peace.** We will deal with issues of great importance and passions will run high at times. We will disagree with each other in a way that is not disagreeable. Practice peacemaking. Strive to differ with an idea, not with a person. We will all support decisions made by Leaders after we have had our say. Be big enough to remain on the team. Minority reports are not filed. Speak now and forever hold your piece/peace.
8. **Individual and community integrity** is critical. Live in a way that represents the church well to others and brings God glory. Be transparent and authentic. Never live in the shadows. Carry no hidden agendas. Wisely share perspective. Calmly address the fear and anxiety of others – don't raise it! Exercise balance with how others will hear and receive what we say, but do not live by public opinion polls.
9. **Feel good about being God's people** and even better about being God's church. The glass is half full, not half empty. Live as people filled with hope. We worship a God of abundance – not scarcity. *God has not given us a spirit of timidity.* (2 Timothy 1:7) Live with keen understanding of God's gifts and God's grace. Leadership is a gift and you are a steward of that gift. You are participating in something that will outlive you. God honors you by partnering with you. Be thankful you can lead. You are joyful because Jesus is Lord!

We are Christ Church!

Called to Love and Be Loved, Know and Be Known, and Share God's Love Boldly!