

NEW CENTURY CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought by divine grace to repent and believe on Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and having been baptized on our profession of faith in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and having committed to walk in obedience to His Word and live for His glory in the world, we now solemnly and joyfully covenant with one another...¹

Authority of Scripture: We will build our lives on and conform our beliefs to Scripture, recognizing it as God's authoritative self-revelation, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and sufficient for teaching, rebuking, correction, and training in righteousness.²

Personal and Corporate Worship: Individually, we will cultivate intimacy with God and pursue personal holiness by regularly practicing the spiritual disciplines including prayer and Bible reading. Corporately, we will regularly gather to worship together through music, the preaching of the Word, prayer, fellowship, baptism, and the taking of the Lord's Supper.³

Christ-Centered Families: We will cultivate godly homes by honoring our marriage vows, living out our God-design roles and responsibilities in the family context, and actively discipling our children to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.⁴

Authentic Community: Understanding that we have been united together by faith in Christ—not by common interests, life-stage, or race—we will cultivate authentic community by serving and participating in the ministries of the church, encouraging one another, praying for one another, bearing one another's burdens, guarding our speech, and challenging one another to grow in love and devotion to Christ.⁵

Accountability and Restorative Discipline: We will take the initiative to pursue a brother or sister in Christ who is sinning, who has wronged us, or is in danger of abandoning the faith, hoping for restoration and reconciliation, and we submit ourselves, out of reverence to Christ, to restorative church discipline when deemed necessary by the elders of the church.⁶

Disciple-making: We will make disciples locally by praying for the lost in our city, building relationships with unbelievers, practicing hospitality, inviting people to corporate worship, and sharing the Gospel as the Lord gives opportunity. We will make disciples globally by sending and supporting missionaries, praying for the spread of the gospel to all nations, and following the Lord's call on our lives, wherever He may lead.⁷

Sacrificial Giving and Service: We will give generously and regularly of our time, talents, and finances in order to (1) support the mission and expenses of the church (2) address the needs and brokenness in the Roanoke Valley (3) and aid in the relief of the orphan, widow, and underprivileged throughout our community, nation, and world.⁸

When, if ever, we depart from this church body, we will seek to unite with another church of like faith and practice where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant.⁹

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. Amen.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

1. Acts 2:38; 2 Cor. 13:14; Mt. 28:19; Phil. 3:8-10; 1 Cor. 10:31.
2. Ps. 119:105; Isa. 40:8; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:18-21.
3. 2 Cor. 7:1; Rom. 8:13; Phil. 2:12; Col. 3:16; 2 Tim. 3:14-15; Ps. 118:22; 1 Thess. 5:17; Rom. 12:12; Heb. 10:25 Acts 2:42-47.
4. Mt. 19:8-9; 1 Cor. 7:1-40; Eph. 5: 22-33; Deut. 6:4-9
5. 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph 4:1-3, 11-13; Heb. 6:10; 1 Thess. 5:11; Rom. 1:9-10; Js. 5:16; Eph. 6:18; Gal. 6:2; Ps. 141:3; Prov. 21:23; Col 4:6; Eph. 4:29; Js 3:1-12; Js. 1:26; Heb. 3:13.
6. Mt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; Heb. 13:17 Gal. 6:1; Tit. 3:9-11.
7. 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Acts 1:8; Mt. 28:18-20; Lk. 24:45-49; Rom. 10:14-17; Eph. 5:17.
8. Mal. 3:10; Heb. 13:5; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; Jer. 29:7; Js. 1:27; Ps. 82:3-4, Prov. 14:21, 19:17, 31:8-9; Deut. 15:10-11; Isa. 58:10; Mic. 6:8; Jer. 22:3, Rom. 12:16; Luke 10:25-37; Gal. 2:10.
9. Prov. 18:1; Heb. 10:25.

*Ratified on Sunday December 16th 2018 via unanimous vote of the NCC congregation.