

# FELLOWSHIP COVENANT

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Having been led as we believe by the Spirit of God to repent and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, we do in the presence of God, relying on his gracious help, solemnly and joyfully affirm our covenant with each other as the body of Christ.

We will work and pray for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We will strive together for the advance of a faithful gospel ministry in this church by habitually gathering together, and by devoting ourselves to the worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines of this church. Furthermore, we will welcome and faithfully guard sound biblical instruction. We will contribute cheerfully and regularly to the ministry of the church, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel among all the nations.

We commit to watch over one another in fraternal love; to pray with and for one another; to rejoice in each other's happiness and tenderly help one another in sickness, distress and sorrow; to nurture Christian kindness in feeling and in speech. We will jealously protect the Spirit-given unity of this body, refusing to participate in or condone gossip, strife or ungodly dissension. We resolve to be slow to take offense and always ready for reconciliation, mindful of our Savior's teaching to seek it without delay.

By God's grace we will endeavor to live according to our baptism, considering ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, walking by the Spirit in the newness of resurrected life.

We will aspire to educate our children or others in our care in the Christian faith; to seek the salvation of our kindred and friends; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our commitments, and exemplary in our living; to avoid all corrupt talk and excesses that could harm this church's testimony or jeopardize our own or another's faith.

We will humbly encourage one another in our pursuit of biblical discipleship and the promotion of purity. We acknowledge that persistent and unrepentant sin grieves the Lord and will prompt this body to exercise the steps prescribed by Jesus and his apostles for the sinner's restoration, the witness of this church and the glory of God.

Moreover, when we move from this place, we will do so in a manner conforming to biblical love, communication, truth, and the good of Christ's body; and further, we will unite with a likeminded church where we can carry out the principles of God's Word and the spirit of this covenant.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

*I acknowledge that this Fellowship Covenant is a summary of God's desires for me at home, church, work and play, and I recognize that this covenant is both a challenge and a comfort. By God's grace, I will uphold this covenant, and I expect that if I lax in my commitment to these principles, this body at Addison Street Community Church will hold me accountable with admonishment and exhortation to keep me faithful to the commitment that I am making; and furthermore, as I commit myself to this fellowship, I realize that I am entrusted with the same obligation of mutual exhortation and encouragement. If I ever continue in my sin without true repentance, and do not hear the pleas and rebukes of my brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge this body to seek my spiritual restoration in proceeding in the steps of restoration and purity given by Jesus in Matthew 18:15-20.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_