

WAVERLY PLACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Covenant

Since her earliest days in 1926, Waverly Place Baptist Church has worshiped together under a covenant, or statement on how we agree to live as a church. The following covenant is equal parts promise, summary of expectations, moral statement and biblical standards. In short, the covenant is a summary of how we promise to live together as a church.

We use the covenant in two key ways that help shape and direct our life as a church. First, we require all new members to agree to the covenant before entering into membership of our church. Second, we reaffirm the church covenant on a regular basis as a means to remind us of our promise and spur us along to love and good works. By featuring the covenant in our life together, we strive to protect ourselves from individual and corporate sin. Of equal importance, we spur one another on to live in light of a greater covenant, one initiated by love, sealed by sacrifice, and kept for eternity by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Waverly Place Baptist Church Covenant is a modified version of the New Hampshire Confession of Faith & Covenant (1833)

COVENANT¹

Having been brought, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another.

We promise, by the power of the Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the growth of one another in knowledge, holiness, and care; to hold forth its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel to all nations.

We also promise to partake in family and private devotions; to raise our children in the way they should go; to seek the salvation of our family and friends; to walk with integrity in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our promises, and exemplary in our conduct; to avoid all divisive talk, gossip, and slander, and abuse of intoxicating substances, and be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further promise to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer, to serve each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian compassion and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the command of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

We moreover promise that when we depart from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with another gospel church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

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

¹Originally adopted in Church Conference, April 25, 1926; Revised & Re-adopted February 26, 2017