



COVENANT OF FELLOWSHIP

As a follower of Jesus Christ, having received Him as Savior and been baptized upon the profession of our faith, we solemnly and joyfully enter into this covenant with one another and the body of Christ, the church. We join in the mission of The Vine Church to be a Spirit-filled family that seeks to make disciples and plant churches among neighbors and nations through declaration and demonstration.

GOSPEL: We affirm our belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the power of God to redeem a people for his own possession, establish His kingdom, and renew the world through the perfect life, substitutionary atonement, and resurrection of Jesus. We affirm that this Gospel not only saves us from sin, but transforms our lives to be like Him. (1 Cor 15:1-4, Titus 2:11-14, Mark 1:14-15, Romans 1:16)

Submitting to the Scriptures as the final authority on all issues (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 1, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21), we in good conscience, fully support our statement of faith as detailed at: <http://www.thevinemadison.org/about-us/beliefs/>

We purpose, in light of the Gospel, to grow to be like Christ in community and on mission for the glory of God.

COMMUNITY: We affirm our belief that the Gospel is not just a message to be believed, but a power to be experienced in the context of community.

We purpose, therefore, to commit ourselves to this community of faith by:

- Regularly participating in the Sunday gathering, worshiping, and growing through the preaching of God's Word, prayer, singing, and the Lord's Table (Acts 2:42-47).
- Regularly participating in a City Group where we will live out the Gospel, community, and mission in the context of community (Acts 2:42-47).
- Committing to regularly reading God's Word and prayer in our family and personal spheres to grow in the love of God and joyful obedience motivated by the Gospel (Psalm 1:2-3, Ephesians 6:4).
- Contributing cheerfully, sacrificially, and regularly to support the expenses of the church. (Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 9:7).
- Contributing our time and talent regularly to serve the church body in ministry (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

- Regularly praying for my leaders as they pray for me (1 Thessalonians 5:25).
- Joyfully submitting to my leaders as they joyfully serve, love, protect, equip, teach, discipline, and shepherd me (Hebrews 13:17, 1 Peter 5:1-4).
- Forsaking all gossip, instead speaking the truth in love, and addressing conflict and sin directly with those involved (Proverbs 16:28, Matthew 18:15).
- Watching over one another in brotherly love, welcoming one another as God in Christ has welcomed us, showing hospitality, speaking the truth in love, remembering one another in prayer, aiding one another in sickness and distress, being kind in speech and slow in taking offense, always being ready for reconciliation and forgiveness, and being quick to repent when I sin (Ephesians 4:15, Ephesians 4:25-32, Romans 12:9-21).

MISSION: We affirm that the Gospel does not merely call us into a relationship with Christ and one another, but that it also sends us out into the world on mission.

We purpose, therefore, to advance the mission of the church by:

- Regularly declaring the hope of the Gospel through the spheres of influence in which we have been called to live (Ephesians 6:19-20, 1 Peter 3:15, 2 Corinthians 5:20).
- Regularly demonstrating God’s mercy and kindness through serving those in need (Matthew 5:7, Matthew 5:14-16) in my spheres of influence and in community with my City Group.
- Participating (by praying, giving, and/or going) in the advance of God’s mission through church planting among neighbors and nations (Acts 1:8, Matthew 28:19-20).

I expect and trust that, should I waver in my commitment to these principles, this body at The Vine Church will hold me accountable with reproof, rebuke, and exhortation to keep me faithful to the commitment that I am making.

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 ask this body to seek my spiritual restoration by enacting the steps of restoration given by Jesus in Matthew 18:15-20. Should I be under the process of discipline and seek to leave the church, I understand I will not be able to withdraw from membership in good standing.

I joyfully join myself with this community, and commit myself to the same obligation of mutual exhortation and encouragement.

___ I have completed the membership class

Signature_____ Date _____

Print Name_____