



New Covenant Church

5360 State Rt 37 Malone, NY

Membership

I have successfully completed the New Covenant Church membership class, having studied the basic truths of: Church Membership, Salvation through Faith, Water Baptism and the Ministry of the Holy Spirit.

I consider it a privilege to be added by the Lord to this local church family and understand my responsibilities to the following areas of church life:

1. **VISION** - To support the vision and needs of the church with the sacrifices of my time, God-given talents and financial support through biblical tithing. To be actively involved in the servant ministry of the church, being willing to serve at times by request of the leadership of the church.
2. **LEADERSHIP** - To know and follow the pastoral leadership of this church with love, honor and a non-critical and non-divisive spirit. To recognize that the Holy Spirit's ministry engages church leaders to help bring me spiritual direction and protection.
3. **ATTENDANCE** - To reflect loyal membership with faithful attendance. I will identify with the teaching and vision of our church as my focus for fellowship, prayer, offerings, breaking of bread, teaching activities and correction.
4. **GROWTH** - To continually strive to grow in my personal relationship with Jesus Christ. To obediently follow Him and glorify Him in my relationships at home, church, work and all other areas of life. To cultivate the fruits of the Spirit and actively pursue the development of Christian character.
5. **ATTITUDE** - To have a teachable attitude, working to maintain unity by preferring others above myself, and laying down my own life and interests for the purposes of the Gospel.
6. **EVANGELISM** - To commit to personally spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others in accordance with my personal gifting and abilities.

By God's grace, I agree to diligently attend to these aforementioned guidelines for Christian behavior within the family of God.

So we, [being] many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Romans 12:5



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Membership

We believe that to carry on the mission of the church, to preserve the function and integrity of the church as an expression of the local Body of Christ, and to provide a role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons who associate with the church as members should abide by and agree to the following statements and conduct themselves in accordance with them.

A. Statements of Faith

- **We believe** in the verbal-plenary inspiration of the accepted canon of the Scriptures as originally given and that they are infallibly and uniquely authoritative and free from error of any sort in all matters with which they deal. *1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:16*
- **We believe** in the Eternal God-head who has revealed Himself as ONE God existing in THREE persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; distinguishable but indivisible. *Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14*
- **We believe** in the creation, test and fall of man as recorded in Genesis; his total spiritual depravity and inability to attain to divine righteousness. *Romans 5:12,18*
- **We believe** that sin is a transgressing of, or falling short of, God's standard in action, thought, and character. All individuals are born with a sin nature that affects their motivation, affection, volition, and actions. The results of sin include separation from God, and death. *Romans 3:10,23; 6:23; 14:23; James 4:17; 1 John 5:17*
- **We believe** in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of men, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, fully God and fully man. *Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Matthew 1:21; Luke 1:26-35; John 1:18*
- **We believe** Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again the third day, and personally appeared to His disciples. *Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8*
- **We believe** in the bodily ascension of Jesus to heaven, His exaltation and personal, literal and bodily coming again the second time for the Church. *Matthew 24; Mark 16:19; John 14:2-3; Acts 1:9-11 Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Hebrews 9:28*
- **We believe** in the salvation of sinners by grace, through repentance and faith in the perfect and sufficient work of the cross of Calvary by which we obtain remission of sins. *Romans 5:11; Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 9:12,22*
- **We believe** in the necessity of water baptism by immersion in the name of the Eternal Godhead in order to fulfill the command of Christ. *Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38-39; 19:1-6*
- **We believe** in the baptism of the Holy Spirit as a distinct aspect of the Christian foundational experience with the primary evidence of speaking in tongues as well as evidences such as empowerment to witness, to conquer sin and to live a holy life. *Acts 2:1-4; 8:14-17; 19:6*
- **We believe** in the Spirit-filled life, a life of separation from the world and the perfecting of holiness in the fear of God as an expression of Christian faith. *2 Corinthians 6:14; 7:1; Galatians 5:16-26; Ephesians 5:18*
- **We believe** that since the Bible is the inspired Word of God, it is then authoritative in all areas of human behavior, including marriage, family, sexuality, morality, and ethics.
- **We believe** in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit as manifested in the Early Church and enumerated in *1 Corinthians 12-14*.
- **We believe** in the healing of the body by Divine Power, or Divine healing in its varied aspects as practiced in the Early Church
- **We believe** in the Table of the Lord, commonly called Communion or the Lord's Supper, for believers.
- **We believe** in eternal life for believers (*John 3:16; 5:24*) and eternal punishment for unbelievers.
- **We believe** in the reality and personality of Satan and eternal judgment of Satan and his angels.



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B. Statements on Marriage, Gender and Sexuality

- **We believe** that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen 1:26-27)
- **We believe** that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in single, exclusive union, as delineated in scripture. (*Genesis 2:18-25*) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (*1 Co 6:18, 7:2-5, Hebrews 13:4*) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.
- **We believe** that any form of sexual immorality (*including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest and use of pornography*) is sinful and offensive to God. (*Matthew 15:18-20 1 Cor 6:9-10*)
- **We believe** that in order to preserve the function and integrity of New Covenant Church as an expression of the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the New Covenant Church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by New Covenant Church in any capacity, or who volunteers, agree to and abide by these statements. (*Matt 5:16, Phil 2:14-16, 1 Thess. 5:22*)
- **We believe** that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (*Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10, 1 for 6:9-11*)
- **We believe** that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect and dignity (*Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31*) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes, directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with scripture nor the doctrines of New Covenant Church.

C. Statement on Church Discipline

The threefold purpose of church discipline is to glorify God by maintaining purity in the local church (1 Corinthians 5:6), to also edify believers by deterring sin and promoting purity (1 Tim 5:20), and to promote the spiritual welfare of the offending believer by calling him or her to return to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct (Gal 6:1).

The Lord Jesus Christ has entrusted the local church with authority and responsibility to discipline members for flagrant sin or serious doctrinal error, with the goal of the restoration of the offender. This discipline is entrusted to the Eldership. and is to follow the biblical pattern as Matthew 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 5:2, 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, Galatians 6:1, 2Thessalonians 3:6, Titus 3:10-11, and 2 John 7-11.

Any member of this church who practices or affirms a doctrine or conduct that, in the judgement of the Eldership, is opposed to the teaching of the Word of God, or is threatening to the testimony of this church, or is divisive to the body, shall be subject to church discipline.

Discipline will follow the said biblical pattern, and is an effort to bring the individual to repentance and protect the church from unrepentant sin. Discipline may involve exclusion from participation in ministry and communion, as well as dismissal from the fellowship of this church. An individual may be disciplined by the Eldership short of dismissal from the fellowship, as they deem appropriate for the specific circumstance (*for example, an individual may remain in certain circumstances a member of this church but be denied the privilege of serving in a particular ministry*). The Eldership, as is required by Scripture, may report to the congregation the names of those who have lost membership by reason of church discipline, and the reason for that discipline, as described in Matthew 18:15-20.

D. Statement on Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps.139)

E. Statement of Final Authority on Matters of Faith and Conduct

These statements of faith do not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of New Covenant Church's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline- our Eldership is New Covenant Church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

I have reviewed the statements made on these four pages, and agree to be governed by all the provisions herein.

Print Name

Signature

Date