

# Our Covenant of Commitment

*Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to confess faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and in light of the grace by which we are accepted by God, in love and gratitude, we commit ourselves to...*

## Our Common Beliefs

We humbly submit to the authority of Scripture, recognizing that only through the Old and New Testaments has God clearly and perfectly revealed Himself, these writings alone being sufficient for all that God requires us to believe and do. We also hold that our common beliefs according to God's word are faithfully expressed in summary form in both the short and full versions of the Essential Beliefs of this church. We agree that as faithful expressions of God's word, our beliefs are not only intended to inform our minds, but also our lives. Therefore we seek to walk in obedience to all God has communicated, encouraging others toward the same goal, holding to these truths in unity.

## Our Common Walk

In light of God's word, we commit ourselves, by His grace, to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel by which we have been saved. Knowing that we have been called to follow in Jesus' steps, we endeavor to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, growing in the grace and knowledge of Christ, and striving to love all with His love. We seek, by the power of His Spirit, to show patience and forgiveness when wronged, faithfulness and fairness in our dealings, discernment and holiness in the world, purity in our sexuality and speech, and humility and zeal as we seek the salvation of the lost. As we instruct our children and love our spouse, in our workplace, school, and/or community, in our priorities and pursuits, we purpose to be a godly example of Jesus Christ.

## Our Common Life\*

As members of Christ's body, we commit ourselves to walk together in Christian love, to strive for the advancement of this church, to promote its well-being and spiritual maturity; to sustain its worship, ordinances, and doctrines; to honor its leadership and, if unresponsive to personal sin, to be pursued in a process of biblical discipline; to be faithful in attendance and in cultivating godly relationships; to contribute cheerfully and regularly, in the measure that God prospers each of us, to the support of the ministry, the relief of the needy, and the spread of the Gospel throughout all nations. We further pledge to watch over one another in love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to seek God's help in avoiding anything that might harm our own or another's faith; to be slow to take offense but always ready for reconciliation, and to seek it without delay.

\* Please refer to our *Relational Commitments* for a fuller explanation of these commitments.

## Our Common Vision

We affirm that God's primary means of working in this world is the local church. Therefore, we commit ourselves to the work of this church, serving, that God might do His work through us, and being served, taught, and led, that God might do His work in us. Recognizing that the church's mission is to make disciples of Jesus, we commit ourselves to this work in two ways: 1) to support, through prayer and participation, our One Mission of reaching our family, friends, neighbors, and world with the gospel and grace of Jesus, and 2) to be personally involved with the formal disciple-making efforts of Way of Grace, that we too might be built up to maturity in Christ.

\_\_\_\_ I have read and do agree with the **Essentials Beliefs** of Way of Grace.

\_\_\_\_ I have read and generally agree with the Essentials Beliefs of Way of Grace. I have listed any points of disagreement on the back.

\_\_\_\_ I have read and do affirm the **Relational Commitments** of Way of Grace.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(pastor-elder's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\*\* Your signature is simply an affirmation that this document reflects biblical teaching and it is your desire to follow God's word.

Point(s) of Disagreement\*:

\* I understand and affirm that even though Way of Grace recognizes the reality that genuine Christians can differ on certain *secondary* matters, my disagreement (as noted above) with this church's clearly stated teaching will regularly be governed by the following biblical teachings: 1) maintaining unity in the church (Eph. 4:3), 2) honoring church leadership (Heb. 13:17), and avoiding a quarrelsome spirit in conversations (II Tim. 2:14; Titus 3:9).

\_\_\_\_\_ (please initial)