

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as well as the strategy and structure of Hope Church, I feel led to unite with the Hope Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

- 1. I will protect the unity of my church
 - . . . by acting in love toward other members
 - ... by refusing to gossip
 - . . . by following the leaders

"So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up." (Romans 14:19)

"You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love for each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart." (1 Peter 1:22)

"Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them." (Ephesians 4:29)

"Obey your spiritual leaders and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit." (Hebrews 13:17)

- 2. I will share the responsibility of my church
 - ... by praying for its growth
 - . . . by inviting the unchurched to attend
 - . . . by warmly welcoming those who visit

"We always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." (1 Thessalonians 1:2 – Paul to the church at Thessalonica)

"So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full'." (Luke 14:23) "Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory." (Romans 15:7)



- 3. I will serve the ministry of my church
 - ... by discovering my gifts and talents
 - . . . by developing a servant's heart
 - . . . by engaging on a serving team and serving regularly to build up the body of Christ

"God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another." (1 Peter 4:10)

"A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad." (1 Corinthians 12:7, 25-26)

- 4. I will support the testimony of my church
 - . . . by attending weekend services and congregation meetings faithfully
 - ... by living a godly life
 - ... by giving regularly

"And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another." (Hebrews 10:25)

"No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." (Matthew 5:15-16)

"Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. Give in proportion to what you have. Whatever you give is acceptable, if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have." (2 Corinthians 8:11-12)

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