

Article IV. Church Covenant

The Church subscribes to the following Church Covenant:

As members of St. Andrew Baptist Church, we affirm this Covenant with one another by God's grace, for our good, and ultimately, for God's glory.

Having been brought by divine grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christⁱ and to surrender our lives to Him,ⁱⁱ and having been baptized as Christians in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,ⁱⁱⁱ we covenant together to glorify God^{iv} by making disciples^v of all nations.^{vi}

Together, we will draw near to God in worship.^{vii} We will delight in the glory of God,^{viii} depend on the presence of God,^{ix} grow in the knowledge of God,^x and submit to the Word of God as the all-sufficient authority in our lives and in His church.^{xi} We will pursue the Lord Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practice of spiritual disciplines,^{xii} and we will, by God's grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, seek to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ.^{xiii}

Together, we will hold fast to the hope we profess.^{xiv} We will regularly participate in communion as we solemnly and joyfully remember the past work of Christ on the cross, celebrate the present work of Christ at the Father's right hand, and anticipate the future work of Christ in His return for His bride.^{xv}

Together, we will spur one another on to love and good deeds.^{xvi} We will meet with one another consistently,^{xvii} pray for one another regularly,^{xviii} and serve one another selflessly.^{xix} We will share each other's joys and bear each other's burdens.^{xx} We will edify one another with our speech^{xxi} and encourage one another with our example.^{xxii} We will humbly and gently confront one another and receive correction from one another in accordance with a New Testament understanding

of church discipline and restoration.^{xxiii} We will give cheerfully and generously of our time, talents, spiritual gifts, and financial resources to the support of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations^{xxiv} as we strive to make disciples in *our* Jerusalem (Bay County), and in all Judea (Florida and the Gulf Coast), and Samaria (United States and Canada), and to the ends of the earth (the rest of the world).^{xxv}

We will submit to the spiritual leaders who have been entrusted by God to serve and care for this body by teaching the Word of God to us, modeling the character of Christ before us, and leading us in the work of the local Body of Christ.^{xxvi} If we move from this local body, we will, as soon as possible, unite with another local church where we can carry out the spirit of this Covenant and the principles of God's Word.^{xxvii}

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.^{xxviii}

Amen.

ⁱ Acts 2:38; 16:31; 20:21; Romans 10:9-10

ⁱⁱ Luke 14:25-33

ⁱⁱⁱ Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:41; Romans 6:1-4

^{iv} Isaiah 43:7; 1 Corinthians 10:31

^v Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Timothy 2:2

^{vi} Acts 1:8; Psalm 67:1-2; Revelation 7:9-10

^{vii} Hebrews 10:22; Romans 12:1-2

^{viii} Psalm 16:11; 37:4; 63:1-11; 1 Corinthians 10:31

^{ix} Exodus 33:14-18; Matthew 28:20; John 15:5; James 4:8

^x Philippians 3:10; Colossians 1:9-12; 2 Peter 3:17-18

^{xi} 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Psalm 19:7-11; 119:105-112; 2 Timothy 4:2-4

^{xii} Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

^{xiii} 1 Peter 1:13-16; 4:1-3

^{xiv} Hebrews 10:23

^{xv} Luke 22:7-23; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

^{xvi} Hebrews 10:24

^{xvii} Hebrews 10:25

^{xviii} Philippians 1:3-6

^{xix} Romans 12:9-13

^{xx} 1 Corinthians 12:26; 2 Corinthians 2:3; Galatians 6:2

^{xxi} Ephesians 4:29-32

^{xxii} 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Philippians 4:9

^{xxiii} Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; Galatians 6:1

^{xxiv} Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 1 Peter 4:10-11

^{xxv} Acts 1:8

^{xxvi} Hebrews 13:17; Acts 6:1-7; 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; 5:17-20; 1 Peter 5:1-4

^{xxvii} Hebrews 10:25

^{xxviii} 2 Corinthians 13:14