

Abner Creek Baptist Church Covenant

The Abner Creek Baptist Church covenant is a promise, summary of expectations, and ethical statements we commit ourselves to as fellow members of Christ's church. The covenant forms the moral principles of our worldview according to a biblical standard, and through it we summarize how we promise to live together.

Covenant

Having joined together with this local church on the basis of our shared relationship with Jesus Christ through repentance and faith, as demonstrated publicly through our baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we joyfully affirm this covenant with this body and with God, in dependence on His gracious help.

We will submit to Jesus Christ in all things as the head of the church (Col. 1:17-18).

We will submit to the Bible's teachings as the sufficient source of truth for all of life and doctrine, believing it to be the very words of God, without error, and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (2 Pet. 1:3-4, 2 Tim. 3:16). We affirm our Statement of Faith as a summary document for our core Biblical convictions.

We will work to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them, and teaching them to obey all Jesus commanded (Mt. 28:19-20). Therefore, we will work together for the continuance of a faithful evangelical ministry in this church, as we sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines.

We will contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations (2 Cor. 8-9).

We will endeavor to pursue self-controlled, righteous, and godly living in this world, denying ungodliness and worldly passions and walking in repentance when we sin, remembering that we have been raised to walk in newness of life (Tit. 2:11-12).

We will, by God's grace, pursue personal holiness and avoid actions and lifestyles that are contrary to God's Word. (Colossians 3:5-17)

We will work and pray to guard the Spirit-given unity in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:1-3), and we will walk together in brotherly love, exercising an affectionate care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully admonish and entreat one another to protect one another from sin. When necessary, we will humbly give and receive correction and call one another to repent of sin, lest we become hardened by the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 3:13).

We will be slow to take offense, and always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the instruction of our Savior to secure it without delay (Matt. 5:23-24).

We will lovingly exercise discipline when necessary, for the glory of God, the good of the one disciplined, and the health of the church as a whole (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1; James 5:19-20).

We will hold the Elders and Deacons accountable to the Scriptures and to the duties and qualifications of their call. We will support the Elders and Deacons of this church, praying for them and serving alongside them, and will accept and submit to the Elders' spiritual oversight as they hold members accountable to our commitment to Jesus Christ. (Heb. 13:7, 17).

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, which means we will commit to regularly gathering with the rest of the membership in corporate worship.

We will recognize the failure to regularly gather with the local church, unless one is moving his membership or is prevented by age, health, or life circumstance as a failure to obey God's Word and such action may result in the removal of one's membership through church discipline (Heb. 10:24-25)

If we move from this place, for reasons that may vary, as soon as possible, we will unite with some other local church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word (Heb. 10:25). Until we are in the membership of another local church, we will recognize the spiritual oversight of this local church's elders and the responsibilities of fellow members toward one another in Christ even in a period of membership transition.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

