

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been, as we trust, brought by the grace of God to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and to give ourselves wholly to him, we do solemnly and joyfully covenant with each other to walk together in Him in brotherly love to His glory as our common Lord. We do therefore, in His strength engage that we will exercise a mutual care as members one of another to promote the growth of the whole body in Christian knowledge, holiness, and comfort to the end that we may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God, and to promote and secure this object we will uphold the public worship of God, and the ordinances of His house, and hold constant communion with each other therein. That we will cheerfully contribute of our property for the support of the poor, and for the maintenance of a faithful ministry of the gospel among us, and that we will not omit family religion at home, nor allow ourselves the too common neglect of the great duty of training our children and those under our care with a view to the service of Christ and the enjoyment of heaven. That we will walk circumspectly in the world that we may win their soul; remembering that God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of a sound mind, that we are the light of the world, and the salt of the earth, and as a city set on a hill. That we will frequently exhort, and if occasion requires it, admonish one another according to Matthew 18; in the spirit of meekness considering ourselves, lest we also be tempted, and that as in baptism, we have been buried with Christ, and raised again, so there is on us a special obligation, thenceforth to walk in newness of life, and may the God of peace who brought again from the dead, our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, who through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do His will working in us that which is well pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

- Copied from the Willis Chapel Church Book, 1807