

speaking things which they ought not. I Timothy 5:13), **backbiting** (For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults. II Corinthians 12:20), **and excessive anger** (Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath. Ephesians 4:26); **to abstain from the sale of, and use of, intoxicating drinks as a beverage** (Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. I Corinthians 6:10; And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit. Ephesians 5:18.) **and the non-medical use of drugs.** (All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any I Corinthians 6:12); **and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour** (But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8).

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love (Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another. Romans 12:10); **to remember one another in prayer** (Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. Ephesians 6:18); **to aid one another in sickness and distress** (As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10); **to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling** (That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. I Corinthians 12:25-26) **and Christian courtesy in speech** (To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. Titus 3:2); **to be slow to take offense** (Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Romans 12:19), **but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay** (Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. Matthew 5:23-24).

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word (I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: that ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also. Romans 16:1-2).



OUR COVENANT

COLONIAL HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to 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.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale of, and use of, intoxicating drinks as a beverage and the non-medical use of drugs and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling; and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Our Covenant

(And they entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul. II Chronicles 15:12)

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God (*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. John 16:13-14*), **to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour** (*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. John 1:12*) **and, on the profession of our faith** (*And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Acts 8:37*), **having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost** (*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matthew 28:19*), **we do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ** (*For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. I Corinthians 12:12-13*).

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit (*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. John 14:26*) **to walk together in Christian love** (*Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Ephesians 5:1-2*); **to strive for the advancement of this church** (*In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord. Ephesians 2:21*) **in knowledge** (*But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. II Peter 3:18*), **holiness** (*Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. II Corinthians 7:1*), **and comfort** (*Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. I Thessalonians 5:14*); **to promote its prosperity and spirituality** (*But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost. Jude 20*); **to sustain its worship** (*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. Hebrews 10:25*), **ordinances** (*And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as*

oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. I Corinthians 11:24-25), **discipline** (*Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. II Thessalonians 3:6*), **and doctrines** (*Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds. II John 9-11*); **to contribute cheerfully and regularly** (*Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come. I Corinthians 16:2*) **to the support of the ministry** (*Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. Galatians 6:6*), **the expenses of the church** (*Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Malachi 3:10*), **the relief of the poor** (*Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea. Acts 11:29*), **and the spread of the gospel through all nations** (*But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8*).

We also engage to maintain family (*Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates. Deuteronomy 11:18-20*) **and secret** (*But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. Matthew 6:6*) **devotion; to religiously educate our children** (*And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4*); **to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances** (*Howbeit, Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. Mark 5:19*); **to walk circumspectly in the world** (*See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise. Ephesians 5:15*); **to be just in our dealings** (*Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. Romans 12:17*), **faithful in our engagements** (*Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Ephesians 4:25*), **and exemplary in our deportment** (*For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light. Ephesians 5:8*); **to avoid all tattling** (*And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies,*