

Germantown Mennonite

Our Core Convictions

As an Anabaptist community, we recognize that we are journeying² towards these convictions that are central to our faith:

1. God, the creator of the universe, is a God of love, and longs for mercy and justice, both for humanity and creation.
2. We follow in the way of Jesus, whose life, death and resurrection teaches us how to live.
3. Jesus showed us a way of shalom, non-violence, and alternatives to empire responses of power and dominion over others.
4. As Jesus gathered his disciples together to eat with sinners and saints-- throughout his ministry, at the last supper, and after the resurrection--we too gather, to share communion, to eat together, to share our joys and sorrows, and to give and receive counsel. We are part of each other's lives, bound to each other in deep, meaningful ways.
5. Our discipleship leads us to serve God and others, and to have the grace and vulnerability to be served as well.
6. Water baptism is an expression of commitment to begin the journey of discipleship. We welcome those who desire to begin that journey to make a public confession of faith, and receive a blessing of the congregation and the Holy Spirit.
7. We study scripture with each other, aligning our story with the biblical story. We welcome the winds of the Holy Spirit to blow through us, giving us wisdom to discern where God is calling us.
8. We strive to live lives of simplicity, using our resources wisely, and recognizing the impact of our consumerism on God's creation and on our spirits.³

²We recognize that we don't believe these core convictions 100% of the time. We lean towards belief in these convictions, knowing that God gives us faith and courage to live these convictions together. When we do not believe them, we know we can count on others in the church to hold these convictions for us.

³These core convictions are what we will use in our membership rituals with new covenanters. It's also what we will use in our yearly covenant affirmation service. This document will replace our thirty year old Congregational Covenant. It will not replace our Vision Statement.

Toronto Mennonite

TUMC MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Leader: These people before us today, have witnessed to their faith and now offer themselves as companions in our obedience to Christ.

Membership candidates:

I affirm my faith in and loyalty to Jesus Christ, our Lord
and to the gospel of peace he proclaimed.

I am willing to unite with this congregation where I will worship,
serve and share in its ministry.

I will support this congregation by my earnest prayers, my regular attendance, my loyal
service and faithful stewardship, as God gives me strength.

As a member, I will live in Christian fellowship with this congregation, giving and
receiving love, sharing burdens and seeking the good of all.

Congregation:

As we receive you into the fellowship of the church, we make this covenant with you.

We renew our commitment to God to bear each other's burdens,
to assist in times of need,
to share our gifts and possessions,
to forgive as Christ has forgiven us,
to support each other in joy and sorrow,
and in all things to work for the common good.

We open ourselves to fellowship with you in worship, study, service and discipline.

We joyfully accept you as partner, both in the care of our spiritual family, and in our mission to the
world.

Leader: In your coming to us, we are newly summoned to become a community in which the
wholeness of Christ is realized. It is our privilege and joy to welcome you into our Family of
Faith.

* * * * * (sing)

Obey My voice,
and I will be your God, and ye shall be My people.
And walk in all the ways I have commanded you,
that it may be well with you and I will be your God.
Obey My voice,
and I will be your God, and ye shall be My people

Assembly Mennonite Church

Our covenant

As a community of God's people, we receive with joy God's gracious love.

In response, we join in worship and praise and make this covenant with God and with each other.

We affirm our faith in God, the source of life and love, the Sovereign of the world.

We commit ourselves to follow Jesus Christ, who redeems, reconciles, and reveals God to us.

We invite God's Spirit to transform, empower and guide us, as together we discern and follow God's word.

We pledge to nurture and care for each other and call out the gifts of each person.

We repent of sin, both private and social, and join God's plan for healing the earth and bringing peace and justice to its people.

We accept God's call to share the good news of redeeming love, and invite others to faith in Christ and membership in his church.

We encourage and pray for each other as we live out this covenant in hope for the time when God brings all of creation to its fullness in Christ.

-Covenant: adopted March 1993

Assembly practices

We believe our Covenant calls us to the following practices in this time and context:

1. **Active participation in congregational life**

1. Worship – God calls us to be the church; not an audience. We encourage participants to nurture gifts for teaching, preaching, leading and otherwise contributing to our corporate worship.
2. Discernment – members share responsibility for discerning the direction of the congregation in congregational meetings and in other discernment venues.
3. Community building – small group participation is one important way we build community and invite others into the life of the congregation.

2. **Ongoing spiritual formation**

1. Spiritual practices – in addition to participation in Sunday worship, we engage other avenues of spiritual growth such as practicing spiritual disciplines; attending spiritual retreats; meeting with a spiritual director; and regularly reviewing our stewardship of time, money, gifts, and other facets of faithful living.
2. Nurturing children – we seek to lead children to faith by the Christ-like love, care, and model we offer the young among us.
3. Spiritual journey – we encourage each other to publicly claim and proclaim faith in God, and we also grant each other the freedom necessary for real searching and questioning.

4. Giving and receiving counsel – we believe we are not an island unto ourselves but need the larger body of Christ for our mutual growth.
3. **Acting on our commitment to biblical peace, nonviolence, and justice**
 1. Relationships – our commitment to peace begins with fostering healthy relationships. We commit to practicing Christian love and faithfulness in our primary relationships, supporting healthy marriages and families, and seeking reconciliation in situations of brokenness.
 2. Economics – we seek to follow God by growing in grace and generosity, releasing more of our financial resources, and contributing an extra 2 % of our income as partial restitution to the exploited people of the world.
 3. Creation care – we commit to better understanding our impact on God’s creation and acting to reduce the adverse effects of our actions.
 4. Justice for oppressed people – we advocate for concerns local and global, act on our biblical convictions against war/militarism, and are a congregation which seeks inclusion for our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters.

The points listed under each practice are not meant to define the totality of how we engage a particular practice. They are meant to highlight key aspects of that practice to which members are committed. Also, we intend for this list of practices to be periodically reviewed and for changes to be made as we discern new ways in which God is calling us to faithful discipleship.

– Assembly Practices: adopted April 2010

Chicago Community Mennonite Church

Member Covenant

Responsibilities of congregational members:

1. We commit ourselves to helping each other in times of crisis.
2. We commit ourselves to being mutually responsible for the ministry of the congregation and the life of the congregation, and promise to support it:
 - We will pray for the pastor and the congregation.
 - We will relay our concerns in a constructive way to the appropriate person(s) involved.
 - We will commit ourselves to support the church financially in proportion to our income.
3. We will commit to share our gifts, time, and abilities to the congregation, as we are able.
4. We will freely receive new members as Christ receives us.
5. We will open ourselves to fellowship with one another in worship, study, service, and discipline.
6. We pledge our willingness to give and receive counsel, to offer and accept forgiveness as part of this redeemed community.
7. We will do our best to lead a life in accordance with the Gospel of Christ.
8. We will attend regularly the services of the church and participate in the regular observance of the Lord's Supper.
9. We will willingly assume our share of the work of the Church.
10. We will bear the burdens of others in a spirit of mutual sympathy, and share their joys in a spirit of mutual celebration.

First Mennonite Church of San Francisco

Covenant

In signing this covenant, we accept the rights and responsibilities of active membership in this congregation for the next church year. We understand the making of this covenant to include:

- affirming a commitment to walk in the way of Jesus in community with others
- pledging to the members of this congregation commitments of both time and money, with active participation in worship, planning, outreach, and decision-making.
- holding oneself and the other members of the congregation accountable for both word and deed as we grow together spiritually.

We covenant together to embody and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to each other and the world community. To do this:

We share a voluntary commitment to members of our congregation by:

- sharing in a fellowship based upon the nature of Jesus Christ's love for people.
- developing trusting relationships as a body of Christ's disciples.
- recognizing and understanding our individual and corporate weakness, with support for each other in times of change, learning, growth, and difficulty.
- maintaining a spirit of Christ's forgiveness and acceptance while calling each other and our congregation to a life of spiritual growth, responsibility, and service.
- identifying, receiving, sharing, and developing each other's gifts.
- participating regularly in worship and other significant congregational meetings and activities.

We share a voluntary commitment to the communities of the world by:

- meeting all people in the spirit and mind of Christ.
- speaking out against institutions, ideologies, and social movements whose spirits are contrary to Christ's example of love and the tenets of our Anabaptist heritage.
- living responsibly with the natural resources of the world that God has provided.
- sharing generously our personal and congregational gifts and resources for the benefit of all.
- living peacefully while actively working for peace and justice throughout the world.
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Confession of Faith

We make our confession of faith as the basis for this covenant:

We believe in God
who is over all and through all and in all
who in love created people to live in covenant
with God and all creation.

We believe in Jesus the Christ
who lived, died and rose again
incarnating God's love to give us hope and courage
as we live in our broken yet beautiful world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit
who regenerates and builds up God's people
revealing God's purpose and truth in the world
through creation, history, and scripture.

We believe in the church
whose purpose is to reflect God's love for humankind
and to witness to God's saving work in history
as Christ's body in the world.

We trust you God
you choose us through your gift of grace
you give us our reason for being
you lead us with your word
you invite us to participate in your kingdom.

JUBILEE MENNONITE CHURCH COVENANT

January 21, 2018

We commit to make Jubilee our home church for the upcoming year.

We pledge ourselves to one another as fellow members of a community of faith whose goal is to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

- We commit ourselves to be a fellowship of hospitality where we love and care for one another no matter what our differences may be.*
- We commit ourselves to worship God together regularly.*
- We commit ourselves to follow Jesus' teachings and example.*
- We commit ourselves to demonstrate God's love, acceptance, forgiveness, and reconciliation in our relationships.*
- We commit our spiritual gifts, our time, and our money, to the work of God's kingdom.*
- We commit ourselves to prayer.*

Above all, we acknowledge that it is God's love that makes this covenant community possible.

Houston Mennonite

*I am a follower of Jesus committed to loving God and all people.
I covenant with my Houston Mennonite faith family to build up God's kingdom through daily living, public witness, active support of the people and practices of the church, and spiritual growth as a disciple of Christ.*

