

Hope in Christ Church
Relational Covenant

Conviction *We take God's Word seriously*

We believe that God's Spirit among us is producing the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. And we believe that daily, these manifestations of the Spirit will grow and continually transform us from one degree of glory into another.

Galatians 5:22-23, 2Corinthians 3:18

Character *We listen humbly and speak plainly*

- I will listen with an open mind and heart to the opinions, ideas and concerns of others and respond respectfully with thoughtfulness, sensitivity and kindness.
- I will focus on the issues and not the personality of another. I will deal with behaviors and not what I guess another's motive to be. I will respond in love and not react in anger.
- I will value, listen, and take to heart the opinions and perspectives of others, even when different than mine.

James 1:19-20, Ephesians 4:25-32

Care *We love God by loving each other*

- I will value our congregation as a family, encourage one another and invest in relationships with one another.
- I will not stay silent with my concerns, but will share them openly and honestly with the council.
- I will not stay silent with my hurts, but will share them openly, honestly and lovingly with the person who hurt me.
- I will turn away from the temptation to gossip.
- When an open discussion is completed and all have been given an opportunity to present their input, I will support the wisdom of the congregation, Council's leadership and the work of the Spirit among us.

1Corinthians 13:4-7, Matthew 5:23-24, Ephesians 5:21
John 13:35, Acts 15, Galatians 2:11-21

Community *We value friendship over pride*

- I will model the behavior I want to see in others.
- I will accept differing opinions as a healthy part of community life, and if conflict arises, I will engage in conflict resolution rather than ignoring the problem.
- I accept that others may not agree with my view or perspective and I will receive their input graciously and openly, giving them the benefit of the doubt.
- I will maintain a commitment of reconciliation and be forgiving and seek forgiveness.

Luke 6:37, Matthew 6:14, Philippians 2:1-4
Proverbs 18:24, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Each of these behaviors, I will strive to adhere to, God helping me.