

REDEEMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

COVENANT MEMBERSHIP

Church Membership

God's purpose in creation and salvation is to call a people to Himself that will be His glorifying and worshipping people. Before the incarnation of Christ, that people took the form of the people of Israel—blessed and promised in the covenant with Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3). The people of God before Christ, looked ahead to Christ with faith through the signs, types, and shadows of the redeeming work of Christ (Col. 2:17; Heb. 8:5).

When Christ came, He saved and redeemed people from every tongue, tribe, and nation fulfilling the promise given to Abraham (Gen. 12:3, 17:1-8; Gal. 3:8). In Christ, the people of God is the universal Church, spanning space and time (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22-23). The pattern in the New Testament is for the universal Church to be manifested in particularized contexts, made up of believers in specific locations; this is called the local church. Commitment to and accountability within a localized community of believers, under the care of its leaders, is the biblically assumed and commanded model for followers of Christ (Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25, 13:17).

It is the belief of Redeemer Community Church that membership in a local church is the teaching of God's Word, and faithful believers are to obey this biblical teaching (Matt. 16:18, 18:15-20; Acts 2:24-27, 8:3, 11:22, 26, 12:1, 5, 14:23, 27, 15:3, 4, 41, 20:17, 28; Rom. 16:1, 16; 1 Cor. 1:2, 4:17, 5:12, 14:12; Gal. 1:2; 1 Thes. 1:1, 2:14; Rev. 1:4, 11). Christian men, women, and children should be committed, joyful, and participatory members of the church, the body of Christ (Rom. 12:3-13; 1 Cor. 12:12-20). All Christians should submit to and honor the leadership of the local church, being teachable and cheerful (Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:5).

Church Leadership

God established leadership over the local church in the office of Elders and Deacons (1 Tim. 3:1-7, 8-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Pet. 5:1-4). As shepherds and overseers of a local church, elders are entrusted with protecting, leading, equipping, and caring for the corporate church body and her individual members.

The Elders are to equip the church and her members for the work of ministry and Christian living (Eph. 4:11-12), teach the whole counsel of the word of God (Acts 20:27-28; 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 4:1-5; Titus 2:1), prayerfully seek God's will for the church, steward her resources in accord with scripture (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:1-5), and lovingly exercise discipline when necessary, for the glory of God, the good of the member(s) in

discipline, and the purity of the church (Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1; James 5:19-20).

The office of deacon is a service and ministering role in the church (1 Tim. 3:8-13). Deacons' primary function is the care and welfare of the church members and broader community (Acts 6:1-6; 1 Tim 5:3, 9).

Member Covenant

Members of Redeemer Community Church vow to uphold the teaching of God's word, participate in the life of the body, give of their time, talents, and resources to advance the mission and ministry of the church. Members commit to worship with, and pray with and for the church. All members must be baptized in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. All members are responsible to acknowledge the creeds and confessions held by Redeemer Community Church and affirm the following member vows:

1 - Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in need of salvation by Christ, and do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, receiving and resting upon Him alone as He is offered in the gospel?

2 - Have you been baptized in accordance with His Word?

3 - Do you solemnly promise before God, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, to live in a way that becomes followers of Christ?

4 - Do you solemnly promise before God to support the ministry of this church in its worship and work, submitting to its government and discipline, while pursuing its purity and peace?

If you agree to the document above and affirm all of the covenant vows, you may sign this document and so be added to the membership of Redeemer Community Church.

Print Name of Head of Household: _____

List any other household members: _____

Head of Household Signature: _____