NRBC's CHURCH COVENANT

Adopted 12/14/2008; Revised 11/6/2011

By the grace of God we have been led to repent of our sins (Luke 15:10) and believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior (John 20:31). We have confessed our faith (Romans 10:9-10) and have been baptized as believers by immersion (Matthew 28:19). Now, therefore, in the presence of God and by His grace, we joyfully and thoughtfully enter into a holy covenant with the members of Nansemond River Baptist Church (Gen. 9:11, 15:18, 17:1-9, 21:27, 31:44, Exodus 34:10, 1 Samuel 20:16, 2 Kings 23:3, 2 Chronicles 34:31-32, Neh. 9:38, 1 Cor. 5:11-12).

We promise to walk together in Christian love through the power of the Holy Spirit (John 13:34-35).

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Hebrews 10:25) but faithfully attend the Church's meetings for worship, prayer, study, and fellowship (Acts 2:42, Col. 3:16); we will use our spiritual gifts for the common good (1 Cor. 14:12; 26).

We pledge to faithfully participate in the ordinances of the Church, which are baptism (Matt. 28:19-20, Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39) and the Lord's Supper (Matt. 26:26-30, Acts 2:41-42, 1 Cor. 11:23-29). We will strive after unity in both doctrine and conduct (Phil. 1:27-28). We will both submit to the Church's discipline upon ourselves and lovingly assume our responsibility to participate in the discipline of other members, as taught in Scripture (1 Cor. 5:11-12, Matt. 18:15-18).

We will contribute cheerfully and regularly to this Church for its general ministry and expenses (2 Cor. 9:10-12), the relief of the poor (Romans 15:26), the cause of reformation and revival (2 Cor. 11:9; 8:3), and the spread of the Gospel throughout all nations (Matt. 28:18-20).

We will strive by God's grace to live as ambassadors of Christ in the world (2 Cor. 5:20); and denying ungodly desires (Titus 2:12) we will seek to fulfill our calling to lead a holy life (1 Peter 1:15) and to be salt and light (Matt. 5:13-16).

We will be just and honest in our dealings and faithful in our responsibilities and commitments (Eph. 6:10-17).

We will abide by the standards of sexual purity, integrity, and faithfulness as taught in the Bible (1 Cor. 6:18, Eph. 5:3-5).

We will reject all heretical beliefs and practices, using Scripture as our final authority (Rom. 16:25-27, 2 Tim. 3:16).

We purpose to watch over one another in brotherly love (Rom. 12:10), to remember one another in prayer (James 5:16), to help one another in sickness and distress (1 Tim. 5:10, James 1:27), and to cultivate compassion (Matt. 9:36).

Believing that the pursuit of peace with others accompanies true faith in Christ (Ps. 34:14, Rom. 14:19), we will be slow to take offense (1 Cor. 13:4-7), always eager to seek the reconciliation Christ commands (Matt. 5:23-25), and will work to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Phil. 1:27; John 17).

We resolve to practice personal and family worship, to train our children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord, and to seek the salvation of our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances, and of all the world (Deut. 6:6-9, Pro. 22:6, Matt. 28:19-20).

We promise that if, in the providence of God, we leave this Church we will diligently seek to unite with another Church where we can continue to carry out the spirit and principles of God's Word (Acts 14:26-28, Heb. 10:25, Acts 17:1-4).