



# 2026 Covenant

In the Bible, a covenant is a sacred agreement or binding promise between God and a person or group of people. They are similar to contracts, treaties, or wills in the ancient world. Starting in Genesis, God enters into one covenantal partnership after another with various humans in order to move us into closer, more faithful relationships with each other and with God, ultimately through Christ.

In our time in Community Church, Congregational we believe that in Christ we've been given the freedom to choose whom and what we will serve, live for, and dedicate our lives to. That's why we renew our membership annually by submitting a covenant that describes our plans for our relationship with God and this church for the coming year.

We encourage you to reflect deeply on where you are in your faith journey—your commitment, devotion, and how you're being led by God at this time. This is a chance for you to share, with honesty and intention, your current relationship with Christ and how you want to live that out.

Your covenant includes your financial support and your service within the congregation and community. Because covenants are based on the mutuality of our promises to our church and God, and God's promises to us, we invite you to develop a covenant that includes spiritual growth goals as well as requests for support of those goals from our church.

Your covenant may be as long or as short as you like, but it must be in written, not verbal form. For new or prospective members, your covenant may be a simple statement of intentionality rather than a discerned calling. It could be something like learning more about Community Church, coming to weekly worship for the year, joining a Bible study group or exploring opportunities to serve the community.

We believe that covenanting is both a privilege and responsibility. Like our Pilgrim forebears, we also believe that as both individuals and a faith family, we are called into discipleship in following Christ. We invite you to use the month of October to take this meaningful step by reflecting on your faith, making use of opportunities to learn more about covenanting, and writing your covenant as a way to grow deeper in your journey with Christ and your connection to our community.

## Some important dates for the 2026 Covenant Season:

**October 12, 2025:** Covenant Season begins. Covenant Packets are available electronically or on paper upon request.

**October 19, 2025:** Q&A for anyone who wants to learn about membership or what it means for our church.

**November 2, 2025:** Covenant Sunday! Bring, mail or email your covenant to church by this date so that they can be celebrated and blessed during worship.

**January 11th, 2026:** Approximate **deadline** for submission of your covenant in order to be able to vote at the annual meeting which is held the last Sunday of January or first Sunday of February.

### Information if you are submitting your covenant on paper:

This covenant package consists of three separate pages—the Information Page, the Covenant Document, and the Financial Support Page. Please submit all documents together to either **Deacon Al Adams** or the church office.

The information sheet will be given to Amanda Stanaland, our Administrator, for maintenance of our directory. If your information hasn't changed in 2025, you don't need to supply the information. Please just check the "No Change" box.

Your financial covenant page will only be shared with our accountant and treasurer so that they may manage our yearly budget.

Your Covenant Document is kept confidential. It is given to only one member of the Board of Deacons and is shared only with the appropriate committees on which you are volunteering to serve. The Nominating Committee also receives your volunteer information so they know which committees have holes that need to be filled.

In this packet, we are offering multiple paths to assist you in writing your covenant—there is the schedule for the October Compass Points workshops; a list of service possibilities that includes information about officer positions, boards and committees, and other volunteer opportunities, and a series of questions designed to help you reflect on your feelings, hopes and dreams for our church, in preparation for creating your covenant.

*If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Reynolds, Co-chair of the Board of Deacons at [joanne.reynolds@icloud.com](mailto:joanne.reynolds@icloud.com).*

# Your Contact Information



Your Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if your contact information has remained the same since last covenant (Skip to the next section)



Your Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_



Your email: \_\_\_\_\_



Your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be signed up to receive our email newsletter?

Yes

No

You can count on me for helping with Sunday fellowship during (Please Circle):



Summer



Spring



Fall



Winter

Would you like to add an **emergency contact**?

No (Skip to Spiritual Growth & Commitments to the Church)

Yes

## Emergency Contact Information

Their full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Their email & phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Their relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

This page is intentionally left blank, however feel free to use if extra space is needed in responding to the above questions.

# Spiritual Growth & Commitments to the Church

*We understand that life happens, and that we can only anticipate so much. While we ask that you consider ways you'd like to give to our church community, do not feel pressured to do so in any way. We're just glad to have you here.*

- Check this box if your Spiritual Growth & Commitments to the Church has remained the same since your last covenant (Skip to the next section)

I will support our church with my time, talent, witness, and service in the following ways:

I will support my spiritual growth in the following ways:

How can the church better support your spiritual growth?

This page is intentionally left blank, however feel free to use if extra space is needed in responding to the above questions.



# 2026 Financial Tithing

## 2026 Financial Tithing

*We believe tithing deepens our relationship with God and our faith family. While giving is not required for membership, we invite you to prayerfully consider how you can support this church—whether through a pledge, a Sunday offering, or another way. Thank you for your help and support.*

Check this box if your financial tithing has remained the same since last covenant (Skip to the next section)

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ (week, month, quarter, year) for 2026.

This donation is on behalf of...

Myself as an individual.

My household.

How would you like your pledge statement? (select all that apply)

Send me a hard copy in the mail.

Email me a digital copy.

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Your Name

Today's Date

This page is intentionally left blank, however feel free to use if extra space is needed in responding to the above questions.

## Questions to Ponder:

*In order to help you start your covenant-writing process, we offer the following questions to ponder. Your responses need not be an organized essay or polished paragraph. Write as the Spirit leads and make free use of the questions to help you organize your thoughts.:*

Check this box if this section has remained the same since last covenant

*Think about why you are a member—or want to become one—of our church:*

- What do you love about Community Church, Congregational?
- What drew you in and keeps you here?

*Give some thought to what you would like to see in the coming year—or even longer out into the future—for our church:*

- What are your hopes for your future in our church?
- What dreams do you hold for our church?

*Finally, with all of that in mind, consider what you need to support your spiritual growth?*

- In what ways can our church provide the spiritual sustenance you are seeking?

This page is intentionally left blank, however feel free to use if extra space is needed in responding to the above questions.

***Please keep this page for your own records.***

## **Thank you for covenanting with us for 2026!**

*This statement of welcome and purpose is what has grown out of the "Salt and Light" conversations we've had as a congregation this past year. It has been affirmed by the Board of Deacons and the Church Council. At our annual meeting at the start of 2025, you, the members of the congregation, will be asked to affirm it as well. It is offered here for you to familiarize yourselves with it.*

### **Welcoming Statement:**

Wherever you are on your journey, we value your experiences and welcome you to join us in this faith community as we navigate life together.

We aspire to live purposefully in discerning God's will in our lives, individually and collectively, especially as it is set forth in the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

We grow through the intentional practices of worship, prayer, scripture studies, diverse learning opportunities and joyous fellowship. Our growth enables us to serve one another, our neighbors and our larger community.

We warmly invite you to join us on this sacred adventure.

Please keep this page for your own records.

## Short term & Recurring Volunteer Opportunities:

<b>Willing to Serve –</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Will fill vacancies as needed</b>
Community Church Support Ministry	Jeff Rekoon	Care group for members-- serves under Deacons
Building and Grounds (sub committee of Trustees)		Helps to maintain church's buildings and grounds
Fellowship Volunteers		Serve after-worship and other church events
IT (Tech) Support	Open	Assists with IT needs
Retreat Support	Open	Support planning and staffing-- serves under Deacons
Sanctuary Care	Open	Changes paraments and supports baptisms
BBQ Support	Open	Supports monthly BBQ after worship
Sunday School		Supports and staffs Sunday School
Ushers (Contact Jeff Chandler to get involved)		Usher on Sundays and Christmas
Publicity Committee	Open	Oversees external publicity
Youth Representative	Open	From youth members

## Places to serve for the coming year:

	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Moderator</b>	Gary Van Otten (interim)	Presiding officer
<b>Church Clerk</b>	Marcia Leimkuhler	Secretary
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tom Stellar	Financial officer
<b>Historian</b>	Paul Reynolds & Vicki Ronaldson	Archivists. Photos of church events and show at annual meeting
<b>Board of Christian</b>	Paul Reynolds	Oversees children, youth and adult education
<b>Board of Christian</b>	Bonnie Hattersly	Coordinates mission opportunities
<b>Board of</b>	Joanne Reynolds	Spiritual nurture of the congregation
<b>Board of</b>	Jeff Chandler	Manage church assets and budget
<b>Denominational Affairs</b>	Jim Geocariss	Liaison to UCC, local conference and association
<b>Music</b>	Carol Hoppe	Oversees music program
<b>Personnel Committee</b>	Jim Leimkuhler	Coordinates and oversees employment of staff
<b>Vocatio Committee</b>	Dan Winton	Dormant, but assists members in discerning their calling