

FAMILY COMMITMENT

GRACE AUBURN CHURCH

As followers of Christ, we are members of God's family called to function, participate and minister in a particular place within the body of Christ – **His Church**. For a local church body to be healthy, its family members must commit to becoming equipped to do the works of service that God has prepared in advance for them to do.

Being a member of Grace Auburn means actively desiring gospel-centered community. As family members we first and foremost find our identity in Jesus Christ. This unifies us. Solely because of what Christ did on our behalf, we encourage one another and serve one another as we pursue becoming the kind of people who honor God with every area of our lives. Then, as a result of God's transforming work, we more fully and more purely love God and others: both Christians and non-Christians.

We become carriers of the Gospel across the street and around the world. So, when it comes to becoming a family member at Grace Auburn, know that the leadership (elders and pastors) commit to love, lead, serve, protect, teach, guide and pray for our family members.

Commitment of Grace Auburn Leadership to Family Members

We commit:

- * To meet the criteria assigned to elders and pastors in scriptures
- * To seek God's will for our church body to the best of our ability, as we study the scriptures and follow the Holy Spirit
- * To care for you and seek your growth as a disciple of Christ, in part by equipping you for service, regularly praying for you and ministering to you when you are sick
- * To provide teaching and counsel from the whole of scripture
- * To be on guard against false teachers
- * To exercise church discipline when deemed necessary
- * To set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church family members

Our church family members make a commitment as well – to one another, to their spiritual leadership and, ultimately, to God. The membership commitment begins with their personal statement of faith.

Personal Statement of Faith

_____ I am a Christian saved on the basis of God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, through his death and resurrection, by which I am assured of eternal life. I have repented of my sins and have been made a new creation in Christ, through the regenerating, transformative power of the Holy Spirit. I have publicly professed my faith in Christ and have experienced Christian baptism, as commanded/modeled by Jesus himself.

What follows are the other commitments our family members make to one another, to God and the spiritual authority in their lives (elders and pastors).

My Commitment to Grace Auburn As a Family Member

I have read and agree with the Apostles' Creed, the Grace Auburn We Believe statement, ByLaws, and our Family Commitment. I commit to strive to live by following biblical imperatives:

- * Development and practice of personal and family spiritual disciplines
- * Consistent participation in corporate worship
- * Maintaining a lifestyle that is consistent with scripture
- * Ongoing accountable relationships with other believers for the purpose of discipleship and mutual growth
- * Preservation of church unity in matters of non-essential beliefs/preferences
- * Submission to biblical church leadership and support of leaders in prayer
- * Willingness to pursue opportunities to serve in and through Grace Auburn, especially in the use of one's spiritual gifts
- * Active participation in and support of worldwide church planting efforts
- * Giving generously and consistently to the support of the church in a manner that reflects the generosity shown to us in the gospel

This covenant is a promise to watch over one another in love according to all the Bible commands; to pray for one another in all circumstances while coming to one another's aid in sin and distress; to rejoice in our mutual salvation and gifts received from God; to love and serve one another, being slow to take offense, always ready to forgive and reconcile, following the example and teachings of Christ our Lord.

I will not function in leadership or as a member in another church family, and will notify Grace Auburn leadership when I can no longer keep this commitment.

Signed By: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____