

Westerville Christian Church Ministry Partner Covenant

Throughout the Bible and church history, spiritual covenants have been made between people for mutual edification and accountability. At Westerville Christian we have five requirements for Ministry Partnership or Membership:

- 1) A public profession of Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- 2) Biblical conversion, culminating in baptism by immersion.
- 3) Completion of the "What We Believe" & Spiritual Gifts Classes.
- 4) Submitting to church leadership as stated in the New Testament
Hebrews 13:17: Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.
- 5) Choosing to adhere to WCC's Five Biblical Core Values.

Five Biblical Core Values of the Westerville Christian Church

#1 **Authentic worship nurtures a vital relationship with God!**

Our continual goal at Westerville Christian is to encourage each person to worship God daily not weekly.

I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF CHRIST'S BODY...

...By participating faithfully - *"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together...but let us encourage one another." Heb. 10:25*

...By choosing to worship and not critique - *"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." Psalm 100:2*

...By living a godly life - *"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ." Phil. 1:27 (Ph)* *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship." Romans 12:1*

...By consistently giving financially - *"Each one of you, on the first day of each week, should set aside a specific sum of money in proportion to what you have earned and use it for the offering." 1 Cor. 16:2* *"A tenth of all your produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." Lev. 27:30*

#2 **Outreach focuses on meeting people's needs and healing hurts!**

Our continual goal at Westerville Christian is to mobilize ministry partners to fulfill Jesus' mission of "going and making disciples of all nations."

I WILL SHARE THE MISSION OF CHRIST'S BODY...

...By praying for WCC's growth & influence - *"To the church ... we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." 1 Thessalonians 1:2*

...By inviting the unchurched to attend - *"The Master said to the servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes, and urge the people there to come so my house will be full.'" Luke 14:23 (NCV)*

...By warmly welcoming those who visit - *"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified." Rom. 15:7 (LB)*

...By seeking opportunities to help someone in need - *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." Luke 19:10*

#3 **Small groups connect people and foster growth!**

Our continual goal at Westerville Christian is to forge relationships by connecting people fostering genuine growth.

I WILL FORGE CONNECTIONS WITHIN CHRIST'S BODY...

...By choosing to participate in some type of small group. - *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42*

...By acting in love toward other ministry partners (members) - "So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony and on the growth of our fellowship together." Romans 14:19 (Ph) "Have a sincere love for your fellow believers, love one another earnestly with all your hearts." 1 Peter 1:22 (TEV)
...By refusing to accept or engage in gossip - "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs..." Eph. 4:29
...By refusing to live in isolation and making the choice to be accountable to another Christian person. - "He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy." Proverbs 28:13 Proverbs 27:17: "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

#4 Spiritual growth leading to maturity must be intentional.

Our continual goal at Westerville Christian is to build mature ministry partners who think like Jesus.

I WILL MATURE AS A MEMBER OF CHRIST'S BODY...

...By believing and upholding the authority of scripture - All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness... 2 Tim. 3:16
...By reading and applying scripture to my daily life - "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:9
...By seeking to fulfill God's purpose for my life - I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. John 17:4
...By choosing to consistently get alone with God and pray - Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Mark 1:35
...By communicating not only what, but why I believe in God - "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." Colossians 4:6

#5 Serving people as we are gifted serves God!

Our continual goal at Westerville Christian is to train ministry partners to serve!

I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST'S BODY...

...By discovering my gifts and talents - "Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you..." 1 Peter 4:10(Ph)
...By being equipped to serve to foster growth and maturity - ...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up [13] until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:12-13
...By developing a servant's heart - "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ...who took on the very nature of a servant..." Phil. 2:3-4,7
...By understanding that since Jesus served I must joyfully follow his example. To be a ministry partner means I willingly serve - "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet." John 13:14

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized, and being in agreement with Westerville Christian's Five Biblical Core Values, I am now led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Westerville Christian Church family.