

Bridgepointe Church Covenant Introduction

Love. Live. Truth. Joy.

We believe that the local church is a group of people called by and committed to Jesus and his work who preach and teach God's word, who participate in the sacraments (or ordinances) of baptism and the Lord's Supper, who hold each other accountable to live lives consistent with the good news, and who share resources to accomplish God's purposes. The local church is tied to the global and timeless Church that is Christ's body here on earth. (1 Cor. 12)

Bridgepointe Church is a group of people who passionately believe that we have good news to share with Edmonton and the world. This good news is that Jesus and his Kingdom are here and he loves us and that we can be saved. In joining with us, you join our mission to share this good news with our neighbours. We commit together to live as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against our souls. We commit to living such good lives in this city that, though people may accuse us of doing wrong, they may see our good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. (1 Pet. 2:11-12) We seek to truly fellowship with each other. We seek to have a share together in what God is doing in this city. In this covenant we outline the parameters of our life together. We make promises to each other that have meaning and depth. This covenant is a way of declaring that we are family, called by God to glorify him and to share his glory with the world.

What is a covenant?

A covenant is a promise by which we obligate ourselves to one another in such a way that the obligation of one party is not dependent on the faithfulness of the other (Ezek. 20:44; 36:22; Ps. 76:11; Hos. 2:19-20; 3:1; 2 Tim. 2:13). The Bridgepointe covenant includes a statement of faith, a commitment to Biblical truth, the commitments of Bridgepointe to its members, and the commitments of members to Bridgepointe. Though the covenant does define the relationship between members and the church, it is first and foremost a promise made to God as a commitment to his glory and his bride, the Church (Eph. 5:25).

Statement of faith

* I am a follower of Jesus in a saving relationship with God. I have been saved from myself, the world and the enemy to a complete relationship with God and his people by faith in Jesus Christ, my Lord, through his life, death and resurrection. (John 3:16-18; Rom. 3:23-26).

* I believe Jesus Christ is exactly who he claimed to be (Isa. 5:6; Matt. 26:64; Mark 14:62; Luke 22:70; John 4:25-26; 6:29; 8:58; 11:25-27; 14:6-7; 15:5).

* I have repented of my sins and have been made a new creation in Christ (1 John 1:9; 2 Cor. 5:17).

* In obedience to Scripture, I have been baptized to personally identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, and to publicly demonstrate my commitment as a disciple of Jesus (Col. 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21).

Commitment to Biblical truth

- * I understand and agree that the sixty-six books of the Bible are the ultimate doctrinal authority on all matters (Is. 55:11; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; 2 Tim. 3:15-16; Heb. 4:12).
- * I understand the importance of the church and agree to be diligent to preserve unity and peace; I will not be divisive over secondary theological issues (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7, 17).
- * I understand and agree with the core beliefs of Bridgepointe Church which are founded upon the Word of God revealed in the Bible and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Commitment of Bridgepointe to its covenants

- * 1. We covenant as that your church leadership we will lead, administer, and steward in a manner that is Godly and God honouring.
- 2. We covenant to seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-5).
- 3. We covenant to care for you and seek your growth as a disciple of Christ, in part by equipping you for service (Eph. 4:11-13) and praying for you regularly, particularly when you are sick (James 5:14).
- 4. We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; Gal. 6:6; 1 Tim. 5:17-18).
- 5. We covenant to be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28-31).
- 6. We covenant to exercise church discipline in a God honouring manner when necessary (Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1).
- 7. We covenant to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties as church members (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:12).

My commitment to Bridgepointe as a covenantor

* I covenant to immerse myself in God's Word and to allow it to permeate all aspects of my life with its truth. (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:16-17, Acts. 17:11).

* I will discipline myself to maintain a close relationship with the Lord Jesus. My relationship will be evident through my participation in communion, the church community, service, and a life that glorifies Jesus (Ps. 105:1-2; Ps. 119:97; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25; 2 Peter 1:3).

* I will joyfully and sacrificially steward the resources God has given me, including my time; by participating in weekly worship services and the life of the church community. My talents, by serving God's Church and my neighbours with the gifts I have been

given; and my treasure, through regular financial giving (Prov. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 5:22-26; Eph. 4:1-16; 5:15-18; Ps. 105:1-2; Ps. 119:97; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25; 2 Peter 1:3).

* I covenant to submit to God through his Holy Spirit.. I commit to allow others to speak into my life and to speak into the lives of my brothers and sisters in a Godly and Biblical way. (Ps. 141:5; Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Cor. 2:5-8; Gal. 6:1-5, 8; 1 Tim. 5:20; 2 Tim. 2:25; Titus 1:9; 3:10-11; Heb. 12:5-11; Rev. 2:5-7, 14-25).

* I agree, by God's grace, to walk in holiness as an act of worship to Jesus Christ, who has saved me from my sin that I could live a new life. (2 Cor. 5:17) I will not have anything in my life that will interfere with my relationship with God and others, or that will compromise my integrity. When I sin, I agree to confess my sins to Christian brothers or sisters and seek help to put my sin to death. (If you need help in this area contact church leadership) (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5; 1 John 1:6-10).

My commitment to the mission of Bridgepointe Church.

Bridgepointe Mission Statement: Love. Live. Truth. Joy.

Our mission is to share the love Jesus has for us, the life he gives us, the truth that we are sinners and that he is our savior, and the joy that comes from relationship with him. Our Mission is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and our neighbour as ourselves.

Our mission is to live engaged with the people and world around us, relishing the fact that this is our father's world.

Our Mission is to tell God's truth in a world filled with lies.

Our mission is to be people filled with joy that overcomes fear, suffering, prejudices, and apathy.

I have read the mission statement of Bridgepointe Church and commit to live as a diligent, faithful disciple of Jesus, that my identity would be in him, my worship would be for him, my fellowship would be through him, and my surrendered life would be for his glory.

I understand that this covenant makes me accountable to the members of Bridgepointe Church and gives them permission to speak into my life. I accept the responsibility to notify Bridgepointe leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Bridgepointe Church.