



## AN INVITATION TO COVENANTAL MEMBERSHIP WITH CORONA DEL MAR COMMUNITY CHURCH, CONGREGATIONAL

Covenant: An agreement which brings about a relationship of commitment between God and God's people.

We are a covenantal people here at Corona del Mar Community Church, Congregational. That means we renew our membership each year by submitting a covenant that describes our plans for relationship with God and this church for the coming year. This includes our financial support and our service within the congregation and community. Because covenants are two-way streets, we also invite people to develop covenants that include spiritual growth goals as well as requests for support of those goals from our church.

Here are **important dates** for the 2022 Covenant Season:

**September 11, 2022**, Covenant Season begins

**October/November 2022**, Covenant testimonials and sermons will be given during worship

**November 13, 2022**, Covenant Sunday! Bring, mail or email to church by this date so that they can be celebrated and blessed during worship.

Our by-laws stipulate that annual submission of a covenant is the only means of membership in our church. If you want to be able to vote on our budget and slate of officers at the 2023 Annual Meeting, you must have submitted a covenant two weeks prior to the meeting. Our hope is that you will have your covenant ready to submit well before that on Covenant Sunday, November 13th.

As you prayerfully consider the commitments you will make for 2023, please give extra consideration to your financial tithing. You are invited to spend the coming weeks in careful and prayerful consideration of the commitments you will make. Your covenant may be as long or as short as you would like. In addition, we have separated the financial portion of your covenant on a separate piece of paper. Our hope is that you will submit it prior to Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> to assist our Trustees in creating the 2023 budget.

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. Our covenants form the basis of our partnership with God's work in our church and the larger world for the coming year.

If you have any questions, please contact our Pastor Bob at [bbauman@cdmucc.org](mailto:bbauman@cdmucc.org) or Joanne Reynolds (who is the member of the Board of Deacons assigned to track 2023 Covenants) at [jsreynoldscb@q.com](mailto:jsreynoldscb@q.com)

**Thank you and blessings for your participation from your Reverend Bob Bauman  
and the Board of Deacons of Corona del Mar Community Church, Congregational.**

# QUESTIONS TO PONDER WHEN WRITING YOUR COVENANT

A good way of approaching your covenant is to begin with a blank sheet of paper and setting aside time with Spirit to listen, pray, and reflect. This covenant is your spiritual connection to Christ's church in Corona del Mar and need not be an organized essay or polished paragraph. Write as Spirit leads and make free use of the questions and categories below if they help you organize your thoughts. Your membership begins anew when you return this covenant and covenants you as a member for the next year beginning of January, 2023. Changes to your covenant can be made at any time by contacting the pastor or a deacon.

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

### ❖ WHAT ARE MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH EDGES IN THE COMING YEAR?

- ✚ Am I happy with my prayer life? Would I benefit from additional time to listen to Spirit and talk things over with God?
- ✚ Do I find God in study and lively conversation with others? Do I find God in silent meditation when I quiet my mind? Do I find God in heartfelt time connecting with friends and family? Do I find God when building the kingdom in the service of others?
- ✚ Am I feeding my mind by studying the Bible or other inspirational literature? Am I nurturing my heart and touching the hearts of others? Am I taking time to be still and experience the Great Mystery in moments of profound silence and time spent in nature? Am I building the kingdom of God and working for justice and peace for all God's children? Which of these spiritual disciplines fits me and connects me most readily with Spirit?
- ✚ Do I share my faith with others, allowing sacred writings and holy fellowship to deepen my faith, spark my curiosity, and strengthen my clarity of God's call in my life?

## WAYS TO BUILD UP THE BODY

### ❖ HOW MIGHT I SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN THE BODY OF CHRIST IN MY CHURCH?

- ✚ Do I gather when my family of faith gathers? Do I participate in worship regularly and join in small groups and ministry opportunities?
- ✚ Am I supporting my community of faith and its people with my prayers and my love?
- ✚ Where is Christ calling me to share my talents and my gifts with a full-throated "Yes!"?

### ❖ WHAT ROLE DOES MONEY PLAY IN MY LIFE AND MINISTRY?

- ✚ What role does money play in my spiritual walk? Do I support the ministries I value with my money? Am I a cheerful giver? Is money a reflection of my worth or a reflection of God's blessings in my life?
- ✚ How might I share my financial gifts in support of the life and ministry of this church?

### ❖ DO I PLAN TO INVITE SOMEONE INTO THE LIFE OF MY CHURCH THIS YEAR?

- ✚ Having been blessed by this church, am I inviting others to share in these blessings?
- ✚ Am I called to be in ministry to neighbors and strangers?
- ✚ Are there spiritual "widows and orphans" that I could help find a home in this family of God?

Note: Some of us prefer to write out our covenants as a document or a letter rather than use these forms. You can create your covenant in any form that feels right to you. Please return your covenant packet to Joanne Reynolds, the Deacon assigned to gather covenants this season. You may mail or deliver them to the church addressed to Joanne.



# 2023 Information

 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

 Mobile # \_\_\_\_\_

 Home # \_\_\_\_\_

 Birth Date:    Month: \_\_\_\_\_    Day \_\_\_\_\_

 Include me in the secure on-line church directory.      Yes     No

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

 Winter

 Spring

 Summer

 Fall

## Emergency contact information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to member: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile # \_\_\_\_\_

Home # \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency contact #2:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile # \_\_\_\_\_

Home # \_\_\_\_\_



As I, \_\_\_\_\_, covenant in membership with Community Church Congregational, I offer these commitments:

I will support my spiritual growth in the following ways:

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

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I will support the church with my treasure in the following ways:

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*Who Reads My Covenant?* Your covenant will be read only by the Senior Pastor and one designated member of the Diaconate, in keeping with the bylaws of our church. All information will be kept confidential. Offers of ministry and committee service will be shared with the Nominating Committee as they build committees and ministry teams for 2023.

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# My Financial Tithing 2023

In order to keep the financial portion of your covenant separate, please fill out the information below indicating your pledge amount and the time period it represents.

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ (week, month, quarter, year) for 2023.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: Pledges of financial support will be shared **only** with the Treasurer and Bookkeeper for record-keeping and budgeting purposes.*