

Cochran Ridge Baptist Church Membership Covenant

The Cochran Ridge Baptist Church Membership Covenant

By uniting with Cochran Ridge Baptist Church, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

I. I will protect the unity of my church

A. By acting in love toward other members

(Romans 14:19) *“Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.”*

B. By refusing to gossip

(Ephesians 4:29) *“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”*

C. By following the leaders of the church as they follow Christ

(1 Corinthians 11:1) *“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”*

(Hebrews 13:7) *“Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.”*

(Hebrews 13:17) *“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”*

II. I will share the responsibility of my church

A. By praying for its growth

(1 Thessalonians 1:1-2) *“Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;”*

B. By witnessing to the unsaved and inviting the unchurched to attend

(Luke 14:23) *“And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.”*

C. By warmly welcoming those who visit

(Romans 15:7) *“Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.”*

III. I will serve the ministry of my church

A. By discovering my gifts and talents

(1 Peter 4:10) *“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*

B. By being equipped to serve alongside my pastor and teachers

(Ephesians 4:11-12) *“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”*

C. By developing a servant’s heart

(Philippians 2:3-5) *“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:”*

IV. I will support the testimony of my church

A. By attending faithfully

(Hebrews 10:25) *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”*

B. By living a godly life

(Philippians 1:27) *“Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;”*

C. By giving regularly

(Malachi 3:10) *“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”*

(1 Corinthians 16:2) *“Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”*

- A copy of the Church By-Laws are available upon request

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Cochran Ridge Baptist Church

CORE Values

(1 Corinthians 1:10) ***“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”***

CORE VALUE #1 We believe in the absolute authority of Scripture.

2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21

We interpret the Bible literally.

- We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

CORE VALUE #2 We believe in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

He was God in the flesh (John 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:16), born of a virgin (Matthew 1:23), and lived a sinless life. Hebrews 4:15

- He gave Himself to die on the cross as a complete and final sacrifice for mankind's sin. 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:14-18
- His death was followed by His burial and then His resurrection three days later. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4
- He ascended into heaven (Acts 1:10-11) where He was exalted to the right hand of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11
- Christ will one day return for the church and seven years later return to the earth (Matthew 24:27-31; Revelation 19:11-16) to establish His Messianic kingdom over the entire earth as King. Zechariah 14:9-21; Matthew 25:31; Revelation 20:4-6

CORE VALUE #3 We believe that salvation comes by God's grace through faith alone in Jesus Christ.

Every person is a sinner in need of God's salvation.

Romans 3:10, 23; Ephesians 2:1-5

- Salvation cannot be attained through our good works. Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Romans 3:28; 2 Timothy 1:9

- The moment people place their trust in Christ, God's Spirit comes to dwell within them and they become part of the family of God forever.
Ephesians 1:13-14; Galatians 3:26, 4:6-7
- Our church believes that salvation is freely offered to all who will believe.
1 Timothy 2:4-6; 1 Timothy 4:10; Titus 2:11; 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 22:17; 1 John 2:2; John 1:9-12

CORE VALUE #4 We believe in the autonomy of the local church.

Jesus Christ is the Head of this church and we, as believers, are His body.

Ephesians 1:20-23

- This local church (the people) is free from external control. We make our own decisions concerning buildings, property, senior pastor, etc., as we submit to our Head, Jesus Christ.
Colossians 2:4-7, 9-10, 18-19; Ephesians 3:16-21, 4:15-16
- Cochran Ridge is not part of any denominational organization or religious group. We are an independent, self-governed Bible teaching church.

CORE VALUE #5 We believe that every believer has complete and total access to God.

Every believer has unlimited access to God through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:18, 3:12; Romans 5:2

You don't need another human being to stand on your behalf in front of God. We all have equal access to God. 1 Timothy 2:5

CORE VALUE #6 We believe in the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Every believer is indwelt and sealed by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation.

Ephesians 1:13; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 1:22

- The Holy Spirit is the believer's guide and source of power for everyday life.
Galatians 5:16-19; Ephesians 5:18; John 16:13-14

CORE VALUE #7 We are committed to world-wide missions outreach.

The heavenly kingdom of Jesus Christ is far greater than any local church. It includes believers all over the world. Our passion is not to see how big our local church can become, but rather, how much we can grow the body of Christ in this world. Therefore, we willingly give away to other churches many of the blessings God has given to us. This is done by providing prayer and financial support to other co-laborers in the world, starting new churches, encouraging hurting churches, sending missionaries, and much more. We are committed to reaching the unreached, unengaged People Groups of the world. Romans 15:20

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