

Great Hope | Church Covenant

All: These are the words that express our covenant relationship. This is also the expression that I, a member of **Great Hope**, accept as my rules of fellowship.

Leader: Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior; and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter unto covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

Congregation: We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian Love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge and holiness; to give it a place in our affections, prayers and services above every organization of human origin; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine; to contribute cheerfully and regularly as God has prospered us, toward its expenses, for the support of a faithful and evangelical ministry among us, the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel throughout the world. In case of difference of opinion in the church, we will strive to avoid a contentious spirit, and if we cannot unanimously agree, we will cheerfully recognize the right of the majority to govern.

Leader: We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to study diligently the word of God, to religiously education our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintance; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be kind and just to those in our employ, and faithful in the service we promise others; endeavoring in the purity of heart and good will towards all people to exemplify and commend our holy faith.

Congregation: We further engage to watch over, to pray for, to exhort and stir up each other unto every good word and work; to guard each other's reputation, not needlessly exposing the infirmities of others; to participate in each other's joy, and with tender sympathy bear one another's burdens and sorrows; to cultivate Christian courtesy; to be slow to give or take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, being mindful of the rules of the Savoir in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, to secure it without delay; and through life, amid evil report, and good report, to seek to live to the glory of God, who hath called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

All: When we remove from this place, we engage as soon as possible to unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

Great Hope | Vision Statement

Great Hope Baptist Church will become a church without walls that reaches the greater community and beyond with the love of God.

Great Hope | Mission Statement

G	Go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
H	Have hope for eternal life with Jesus Christ.
B	Believe and look upon the goodness of the Lord through faith.
C	And become a catalyst and instrument for change in our church and community.

Great Hope | Offering Litany

Leader: In Malachi 3, we find a challenge to the people of faith about the giving of our offerings to God.

Congregation: What is that challenge that we may learn to order our steps before the Lord.

Leader: Leader: God said, “I have given you my ordinances, and you have not kept them. However, return to me, said the Lord of host, for you have robbed me.”

Congregation: How shall we return and how have we robbed God?

Leader: We have robbed God in our tithes and our offerings.

All: Bring your tithes into the storehouse, that there will be provisions in God’s house, and God will open up the windows of heaven and pour out to us a blessing that there will not be room to receive. Also, God will rebuke the devourer for our sake.

Leader: 2nd Corinthians 9:6-8 tells us that a sower who plants a few seeds will get only a small crop, but a sower who plants much shall reap much.

Congregation: Every person as he or she proposes in his or her heart, so let him or her give. Not grudgingly nor of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. Amen

All: Now let us hear the offering prayer, and cheerfully give our tithes and offerings to the Lord.