



covenant & membership



the baptist church
www.bromleybaptist.com

People become members of Bromley Baptist Church by agreeing with and signing our church covenant and its accompanying 'ethos and values' statement which are set out below. Read them and talk them over with one of our leaders.

Our covenant

In the love of God that binds us together,
I commit myself to being a disciple of Jesus, my Lord and Saviour.

In repentance and faith, I desire to walk with him,
learn from and about him through scripture and prayer,
model my life on his and seek to become more like him
in what I say and how I live day by day.

I commit myself to God's people at Bromley Baptist Church.

I recognise that I cannot be a disciple alone.

So I hold myself accountable to my brothers and sisters here for the way I live my life;

I will look to the church for support and teaching,
correction and prayer;

I will in turn support the church through holding to its ethos and values, identifying and using my gifts to further its mission and ministry, by giving financially to support its work here, across the UK and overseas; and by speaking well of and graciously to all my brothers and sisters.

I commit myself to making Jesus known in lifestyle, work and word.

By the way I live, I will seek to commend the Good News of Jesus to those I live, work and share my life with,
and I look to the church to help me in this while I commit myself to helping others live up to this high call.

I recognise that I cannot keep this covenant alone.

Not only do I need the help and support of my brothers and sisters here,

I also depend totally on the power of the risen Christ at work in my life through his Holy Spirit.

Our ethos and values statement

Our ethos

1. We are a Christ-centred community believing Jesus to be God in the flesh, believing his death and resurrection to be the source of our salvation and new life, knowing him to be Lord of our lives as individuals and as a church.
2. We are a church of the Bible holding to the evangelical Christian faith as expressed in the ancient creeds and the Evangelical Alliance basis of faith.
3. We are a church of the Spirit believing that we all need to be filled and go on being filled with God's Spirit, growing his fruit (Galatians 5:22-23) and being helped to discover and exercise the gifts God has given us.
4. We are a Baptist church practising believer's baptism on profession of faith and a desire to be a disciple of Jesus, and encouraging full participation by all members in the decision-making life of the church.
5. We are a covenant community, bound together by a commitment to follow Jesus and walk together in love. Membership of our church is via agreement with our covenant and annual commitment to it at our covenant renewal service and is expressed most fully every time we break bread together.
6. We are partners in God's mission, each sent to live out the gospel in our daily lives, making Jesus known through what we do, how we treat others and what we say. We commit our resources and those of the church to the creative and loving proclamation of the gospel in our town and across the world.

Our core values

We seek to be a community like those modelled to us in the New Testament in Acts 2:42-47, Colossians 3:1-17, Ephesians 4:11-16 and Philipians 2:1-18. In particular we are committed to:

1. Being an inclusive fellowship – all people are welcome to participate fully in the life of the church regardless of age, sex, ethnic background or educational attainment; each individual will be equally valued and enabled to participate in the life of the church to the fullest extent possible.
2. Loving one another – we aim to grow in relationships, recognising that it is through one another that we encounter God and are strengthened to live for him a complex world.
3. Seeking to be a blessing to our neighbours – we want to share the good news of Jesus in such a way that many will come to faith

and even more will feel the benefit; we want to do good to our neighbours because we follow a God who indiscriminately does good to everyone.

4. Caring for creation – we believe we need to be good stewards of all God’s creation. This includes creative and mission-focused use of our buildings and prayerful use of all the resources he has entrusted to us.

5. Creative and relevant expressions of community that nurture existing disciples and attract others to Jesus.

Our covenant seeks to express what’s involved in being a disciple of Jesus in community with others here at Bromley Baptist Church. So if you are serious about following Jesus, living for him and according to his teaching, then we’d love to have you join us.

In joining, you’re committing yourself to a life of discipleship lived with others in deepening relationships of accountability. We need one another’s help to live up to Jesus’ call to discipleship. That help comes in many forms: prayer, teaching, encouragement and practical support.

There is no rule about being baptised to be a member – though we do insist that trustees are baptised – but we would encourage you to consider baptism as part of being a disciple of Jesus (see the leaflet *considering baptism*). If you’d like to find out more, one of the ministers would be delighted to explain what baptism is all about and how we practise it here at Bromley Baptist Church.

Being a member is expressed in a variety of ways: using your gifts in the church and community; participating in church family gatherings where we make all kinds of decisions about church life; and supporting the wide range of ministries and activities in which the church is involved (see the leaflet *giving to the church*).

We hope that having prayerfully considered the covenant and ‘ethos and values’ statement, you’ll want to join us.

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