



# POPLAR CREEK CHURCH

300 Schick Rd., Bartlett, IL 60103  
tel: 630.483.1000 fax: 630.483.6366

Journeying with others into a viable  
and thriving relationship with Jesus Christ

[poplarcreek\[dot\]com](http://poplarcreek[dot]com)

# COVENANT

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

— Romans 12:1-2

As Christians, we are members of God’s household (Eph. 2:19) called to function, participate, and minister in a particular place within the body of Christ. A healthy body requires that each member do its part well.

A healthy church requires the same: people who are sacrificially committed and well-equipped to do the works of service that God has prepared in advance for us to do (Eph. 2:10; 4:12). Poplar Creek Church holds its members in high regard; we expect them to lead as missionaries of the gospel to the culture. God, in his sovereignty, placed us in this community, among these people, in this century, for a reason (Acts 17:26-27).

*“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.*

---

**630.483.1000**

*For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”*

— Romans 12:3-8

Being a part of Poplar Creek Church is really about **being part of a family**. All members are disciples of Jesus, unified by their identity in Christ. This unity is expressed in the way they collaborate in loving God, loving fellow Christians, and loving non-Christians. Those who enter into a covenant with their local church are called to a higher degree of responsibility and service. At the same time, Shepherds are covenanted to assist members first and foremost, to love and lead, provide counsel and aid, and pray for, teach, and guide them.

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace...”

— 1 Peter 4:8-10

---

**630.483.1000**

5

# WHAT IS A COVENANT?

While a 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). A covenant is a promise by which we obligate ourselves to one another in such a way that the obligation of one person 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 Poplar Creek Church covenant includes a statement of faith, a statement of core beliefs, the obligations of Poplar Creek Church leadership, and the personal obligations of the people of Poplar Creek Church.

---

[www.poplarcreek.com](http://www.poplarcreek.com)



- I am a Christian saved from sin and eternal separation from God by faith in Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, through his death and resurrection, by which I accept the free grace of eternal life (John 3:16-18; Rom. 3:23-26).
- I believe Jesus Christ is exactly who he claimed to be (Isa. 53:6; 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 by immersion (or commit to participation in a Poplar Creek baptism study) to personally identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, and to demonstrate publicly my commitment as a disciple of Jesus (Col. 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21; Rom. 6:3-6).



# STATEMENT OF CORE BELIEFS

- I agree with the Core Beliefs of Poplar Creek Church (available on our website).
- I will adhere to Poplar Creek Church's position on primary theological issues, and I will not be divisive over secondary issues (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7, 17).
- I 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).



# OBLIGATIONS OF POPLAR CREEK CHURCH LEADERSHIP

- We covenant that your Pastors and Shepherds will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4).
- We covenant to seek God's will for our church family to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-5).
- 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).

---

**630.483.1000**



# OBLIGATIONS OF POPLAR CREEK CHURCH LEADERSHIP

10

- We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; Gal. 6:6; 1 Tim. 5:17-18).
- We covenant to be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28-31).
- We covenant to exercise church discipline when necessary (Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; Gal. 6:1).
- We covenant to set an example and journey with you in fulfilling the duties and privileges of church members (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:12).

MY PERSONAL  
COMMITMENT TO  
POPLAR CREEK  
CHURCH

- I have read and understood the Statement of Core Beliefs of Poplar Creek Church statement and will not be divisive to its teaching. I also understand the importance of submission to church leadership and will be diligent to preserve unity and peace (Eph. 4:1-3; Heb. 13:7, 17).
- I covenant to yield to the authority of Scripture as the final mediator on all issues (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
- I will maintain a close relationship with the Lord Jesus through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practice of spiritual disciplines. My relationship will be evident through my participation in weekly worship services, communion,

---

**630.483.1000**

11

MY PERSONAL  
COMMITMENT TO  
POPLAR CREEK  
CHURCH

Poplar Creek community, service, and a life that glorifies God (Ps. 105:1-2; Ps. 119:97; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25; 2 Peter 1:3).

- I will manage the resources God has given me, including my time, talents, and treasure (Prov. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 5:22-26; Eph. 4:1-16; 5:15-18). This includes regular financial giving, service, and participation in community that is sacrificial, cheerful, generous and voluntary (Rom. 12:1-8; 2 Cor. 8-9; 12:7-31; 1 Peter 4:10-11).
- I covenant to submit to discipline by God through his Holy Spirit, to follow biblical procedures for church discipline in my

MY PERSONAL  
COMMITMENT TO  
POPLAR CREEK  
CHURCH

relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ, to agree to righteous discipline when approached biblically by brothers and sisters in Christ, and to receive discipline by church leadership if the need should ever arise (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 agree to confess my sins to Christian brothers or sisters and seek help to put my sin to death (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5; 1 John 1:6-10).

---

**630.483.1000**

MY COMMITMENT  
TO THE VISION OF  
POPLAR CREEK  
CHURCH

14

*“Journeying with others into a viable and thriving relationship with Jesus Christ”*

I have read the vision statement of Poplar Creek Church and commit to participate in this mission 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 interaction with the culture would be for his glory.

---

[www.poplarcreek.com](http://www.poplarcreek.com)

MY COMMITMENT  
TO THE VISION OF  
POPLAR CREEK  
CHURCH

I understand that this covenant obligates me to the members of Poplar Creek and is an acknowledgment of my obedience to the leadership of this church. I accept the responsibility to notify Poplar Creek leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Poplar Creek Church.

---

**630.483.1000**

