

Leadership Covenant of Alto Reformed Church

(Affirmed by the Elders on 6/4/19)

Guiding Scripture

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:42-47)

Our Covenant

We will pursue our personal calling, biblical content, godly character, and healthy connections.

Personal Calling - As leaders at Alto Reformed Church, we believe that we are called with others to lead the congregation in fulfilling Christ's mission. (Philippians 3:10; Romans 15:20) We want to become the best we can be at fulfilling our church's mission within our community. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8) We will seek to do this with faith, hope, and obedience to God. If he takes us down new roads, we will trust him. (Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:8-19) If he calls us to enable others to do what we are not able to do, we will do that. (Acts 6; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:11-12) God's work must progress. We will diligently pray and seek his wisdom to know how far and how fast to go, and what this means for us as individuals and as an entire congregation. (2 Chronicles 7:14; Matthew 7:7-11) At the same time, we recognize that change and progress require us to think new thoughts and consider new methods, just as the Bible says that new wine needs new wineskins. (Matthew 9:17) We recognize that change and improvement issues are subjective, involving varying methods and stylistic tastes. We will strive to be open to new ideas and sincerely weigh the pros and cons, not limiting God by our lack of imagination.

Biblical Content & Godly Character - We affirm our Statement of Faith along with the creeds and confessions of the RCA (see www.altoreformedchurch.org/our-beliefs) and commit ourselves to teaching these truths, living within their bounds, and graciously dialoguing with those who disagree. (1 Timothy 3:1-13; 4:16) We understand God forgives repentant sinners. (1 John 1:9) We are not to walk in condemnation and guilt. (Romans 8:1) At the same time, we cannot continue to walk in sin. (Romans 6:1-2) As leaders we must set an example as transformed Christ-followers (Romans 12:1-2) reflecting the character of Christ in our attitude (Philippians 2:1-18) and actions. (Galatians 5:16-25) Our goal is to fulfill the mission of Christ through witness, unity, and purity. (John 17)

Healthy Connections - As servant-hearted leaders, we will seek to model grace and truth in our relationships with one another just as Jesus did. (John 8:1-11) Therefore, we commit ourselves to authentic, loving relationships within this congregation. (John 13:34-35) We agree that the kingdom of God is bigger than any individual or group of people. (John 17:15-23) We earnestly seek to do God's will for our congregation. We will work at setting aside personal agendas. If we see that differences of opinions arise, we agree to seek resolution in a God-honoring, biblical manner. This means going directly to the person(s) with whom we have a concern or disagreement instead of talking about the person behind his/her back. (Matthew 5:22-24; 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:12-13; 6:1-8) We will esteem, love, and be respectful of others, even if we hold differing ideas or priorities. If we are not able to resolve our differences through face-to-face communication or even with the help of a third person, we agree to part ways without casting blame, pulling others away, or being generally divisive to our local congregation. (Acts 15:2) We will speak well of one another to others, promoting purity, unity and peace within our church family. (1 Thessalonians 5:11) We will be accountable to one another for our conduct, spiritual growth, ministries, and faithful service to God. (James 5:16)

We commit ourselves to this covenant.

Elders of Alto Reformed Church

Print Name

Sign Name

Date