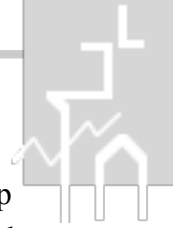


SAMPLE COVENANT

between a Church and Registered Sex Offender



Almost every Sunday, we commit to the following covenant of faith in our worship together. It shapes our life as a community and the personal commitments we make in faith. As Ralph S. Owens comes into the fellowship we share, he too shares the responsibilities and joy of our covenant life.

A COVENANT OF FAITH

We covenant with God and with each other:

to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;
to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church;
to celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity;
to take up Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace; to
care for the earth and for all her people, reconciling ourselves to them in love;
for God gives immeasurable grace into every human life.

A COVENANT OF FAITH

First Church covenants with Ralph S. Owens to be a community of sisters and brothers, to be a source of support and encouragement, to welcome his gifts of friendship and ministry. The church invites Ralph to participate in worship and adult classes, in fellowship events and mission projects that involve no children. He is also welcome to request and receive pastoral care from the clergy of First Church, including receiving assistance with referrals to professional counselors. Ralph covenants with First Church to love God with all his heart and soul and to care for church members and visitors with respect, dignity and concern. He also understands that information about his conviction will be shared appropriately with all staff, elected leaders, parents and other members of the congregation.

In honoring this covenant, Ralph agrees to:

- Not participate in children's and youth programming or classes, including not entering the Christian Education building while these events are taking place.
- Be accompanied at all times on church property by a member or members of his support group, including visits to the bathroom and in the parking lot.
- Never approach a child or youth for any reason, on or off church property.
- If a child or youth in the congregation approaches him, either at church or in the community, graciously excuse himself from this situation.
- Be in continued prayer and conversation with his support group and the ministers about his participation in church-related activities.

SAMPLE COVENANT

between a Church and Registered Sex Offender

First Church covenants with Ralph to be in prayer and fellowship together as we all seek God's love, God's forgiveness and God's grace in our lives.

Should this covenant be broken in some way or his behavior threatens the safety of any member of this faith community, those who sign below will meet with Ralph to pray and determine a meaningful and appropriate response. This may include the church's request that Ralph no longer participate in church activities.

Signed and dated by the senior pastor, the registered sex offender, and the president of the governing Council

From the March 2007 Kyros Newsletter

