

# Behavioral Covenants

Behavioral Covenants—Holy Manners for a Faith Community: A behavioral covenant is a written document developed by leaders, agreed to and owned by its creators and practiced on a daily basis as a spiritual discipline. The Covenant answers the question, “How will we behave (how will we live together?) when we don’t understand each other and when we don’t agree?”

– Gil Rendle, Behavioral Covenants in Congregations

## Guidelines for Loving Relationships and Values to Guide Our Interaction

Colossians 3:12-17, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-26

At the Evangelical Covenant Church...

- We seek to build each other up and not tear down.
- We respect and honor the office of pastor and other lay leaders.
- We seek to communicate clearly, completely, and directly.
- We offer our opinions with charity and humility.
- We make positive investments in each others lives.
- We seek to discover what is best for our church as a whole, not what may be best for us or for some small group in the church.
- We accept disagreement, conflict and evaluation as normal and natural.
- We believe the best of each other and give each other the benefit of the doubt.
- We are committed to being inconvenienced for the gospel.