

## Covenanting for Church Council Members - 2010

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### Scripture

Let us hear the message of scripture.  
There are different ways of serving,  
but the same God is served.  
There are different abilities to perform service,  
but the same God gives ability to each of us.  
The Spirit's presence is shown in some way  
in each person for the good of all.  
Christ is like a single body which has many parts.  
If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with  
it;  
if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.  
All of us are Christ's body,  
and each one is a part of it.

*1 Corinthians 12*

### Statement of Purpose

Friends, we celebrate with joy and gratitude  
that you have been called by God,  
and chosen by the people of Melville congregation  
for leadership in the church.  
This ministry is a blessing, an honour, and a responsibility.  
It recognizes your special gifts  
and calls you to work among us, with us, and on our behalf.  
We thank you and challenge you to offer your best to God,  
and to all God's people.  
As you assume the duties of your office,  
let us make a covenant before God and with one another.

### *To the Members of Council*

As a disciple of Jesus Christ,  
will you continue to live out your faith  
with praise and thanksgiving?  
Will you carry out your responsibilities  
in this congregation with integrity and joy?  
**I will, God being my helper.**

### *To the congregation*

Will you, the members of Melville United Church  
honour the leadership of these people?  
Will you assist them through prayer,  
generous support, and personal example,  
so that, together, we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ?  
**We will, God being our helper.**

### Prayer

Loving God, you have called these people to serve you.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon them and upon us all  
that we may keep the promises we have made today.  
Help them to fulfill their responsibilities.  
May their leadership help us all  
to reflect your love and grace always. Amen

### Declaration

In the name of God: Creator, Christ, and Spirit,  
we recognize and affirm you  
in our ministry as a church council.