

A Covenant for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Church of Christ in Brookfield

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, inhabitants of the Town of Brookfield in New England, knowing that we are very prone to offend and provoke God the most high, both in heart and life, through the prevalence of sin that dwelleth in us, and manifold temptations from without us, for which reason we have great reason to be heartily and unfeignedly humbled before him from time to time, do in the name of our Lord Jesus, with dependence on the gracious assistance of the Blessed Spirit, solemnly enter into covenant with God, and one with another as follows:

1. That having taken the Lord Jehovah to be our God, we will fear him, cleave to him in love, and serve him with all our hearts in truth, giving up ourselves to be his people, in all things to be at his direction and sovereign disposal, that we may have and hold Communion with him as members of Christ's Mystical Body according to his revealed will, to our lives end.
2. We also bind ourselves to bring up our children in the fear and knowledge of God, by his holy institutions, according to our best abilities, and in special by the use of Orthodox Catechisms, that the true religion may be maintained in our families while we live, and after we are dead.
3. Furthermore we promise to keep close to the truth of Christ with due affection towards it, and will heartily endeavor to defend it against all opposers of it, as God shall call us at any time thereunto; and that we may thus do, we promise to use the Holy Scriptures as our platform, whereby we may discern the mind of Christ, and not follow the new found inventions of men.
4. We also engage to have a careful inspection of our hearts, endeavoring by the virtue of the death of Christ, the mortification of all sinful passions, worldly frames, and disorderly affections which may draw us away from the living God.
5. Moreover we oblige ourselves in faithful improvement of our abilities and opportunity to worship God, according to all the particular institutions of Christ for his church under gospel administrations, namely to give reverent and diligent attention unto the word of God at His house, to pray unto him, to sing his praise, and to hold communion with each other in both the Seals, Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
6. We likewise promise peaceably to submit ourselves to the holy discipline of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to his gospel, and agreeable to the constitution of Congregational Churches.
7. We also bind ourselves to walk in love one towards another, endeavoring our mutual edification, visiting, exhorting and comforting one another as occasion serveth, warning any brother or sister who offends, not divulging offenses irregularly, but heedfully following the several precepts laid down for church discipline by Christ in Matthew 18: 15, 16, 17. Willingly forgiving all that manifest to a judgment of charity that they truly repent of all miscarriages.

Brookfield, May 28, 1752  
A Covenant for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Church of Christ in Brookfield

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Knowing that we are very prone to offend and provoke God the most high both in heart and life thro the prevalence of sin that dwelleth in us, and manifold temptations from without us for which we have great reason to be heartily and unfeignedly humbled before him from time to time; do in the name of our Lord Jesus with dependence on the gracious assistance of the Blessed Spirit solemnly enter into Covenant with God and one with another according to God as follows:

1. That having taken the Lord Jehovah to be our God we will fear him cleave to him in love serve him with all our hearts in truth giving up ourselves to be his people in all things to be at his direction and sovereign disposal that we may have and hold communion with him as members of Christ's Mystical Body according to his revealed will to our lives end

2. We also bind ourselves to bring up our children in the fear and knowledge of God by his holy institutions according to our best abilities and in special by the use of orthodox Catechisms that the true religion may be maintained in our families while we live and after we are dead

3. Furthermore we promise to keep close to the truth of Christ with due affection towards it and will heartily endeavor to defend it against all opposers of it as God shall call us at any time thereunto; and that we may thus do we promise to use the Holy Scriptures as our platform whereby we may discern the mind of Christ and not follow the new found inventions of men.

4. We also engage to have a careful inspection over our own hearts endeavoring by virtue of the death of Christ the mortification of all sinful passions worldly frames and disorderly affections which may draw us away from the living God

5. Moreover we oblige ourselves in a faithful improvement of our abilities and opportunity to worship God according to all the particular institutions of Christ for his church under gospel administrations namely to give reverent and diligent attention unto the word of God at his house to pray unto him to sing his praise and to hold communion with each other in both the seals Baptism and the Lord's Supper

6. We likewise promise peaceably to submit ourselves to the holy discipline of our Lord Jesus Christ according to his gospel and agreeable to the constitution of Congregational Churches

7. We also bind ourselves to walk in love one towards another endeavoring our mutual edification visiting exhorting and comforting one another as occasion serveth and warning any brother or sister who offends not divulging offenses irregularly but heedfully following the several precepts laid down for church discipline by Christ in Matthew 18: 15, 16, 17. Willingly forgiving all that manifest to a judgment of charity that they truly repent of all miscarriages

At a meeting of a number of Brethren living in the Second Precinct in Brookfield in order to embody into a Church State. A sermon was preached by Mr. Eli Forbes after which prayers were made to the Brethren chose [Joshua] Eaton who was at the request present moderator of [said] meeting. The Brethren then offered a petition of mission from the respective Ch. 3. They did so long to which being Pub. by the head together with the Covenant above signed the objection being read embodying into a Ch. said Brethren Publicly and solemnly owned and subscribed said Covenant.

attest Joshua Eaton Moderator

These following subscribed at the time  
Eli Forbes  
John Watson  
Jabeth Ayers  
Ebenezer Witt  
Noah Barnes  
John Cutter  
Benjamin Adams  
Abram How  
Ammiel Weeks  
Abner Tyler  
Thomas Hall  
John Gilbert  
Joseph Stone  
Moses Ayers  
Charles Adams  
Moses Barnes  
Jason Bigelow  
Nathan Stevens  
Thomas Taylor  
Ephraim Cutler  
Daniel Newall  
Jonathan Gilbert  
Aaron Barnes  
Isaac Cutter  
John Witt  
Anna Hayward  
Elizabeth Batchelor  
Mary Forbes  
Mary How  
Abiel Slayton  
Mary Beacon  
Patiane Brown  
Elesa Edmons  
Elesa Cutter  
Mary Watson  
Mercy Hinckley  
Lucy Gilbert  
Abigail Cutler  
Deborah Barnes  
Deborah Weeks  
Sarah Lane

The following are new members added to the Ch. since its Imbodying

Abigail Gilbert 1753  
Ester Sampson  
William Gould  
John Deland  
John Deland  
Mat Bartlet 1753  
John Gilbert  
Abner Smith died 1755  
William Ayers 1754  
Andrew Kimbal  
Nathan Gould 1757  
Ester Taylor 1742  
E. Small  
Susan Watson 1742  
Hannah Bartlet 1744  
Abigail Bigelow 1743  
Meriam Kimball  
Rebecca Smith  
Rebecca Bartlet 1743  
John Woodbury 1747  
Michael Howard 1744  
Hannah Gould  
Rebecca Barnes  
Abigail Woolcot  
Abigail Woolcot  
Ellis Hinds  
Males omitted re-remembered  
X Andrew Hornmitten  
Ester Barnes  
Mary Riggs  
Eli Gilbert  
John Taylor  
Abigail Cutler  
Deborah Barnes  
Deborah Weeks  
Sarah Lane

The following are members of the Ch. since its Imbodying

Abigail Gilbert  
Ester Sampson  
William Gould  
John Deland  
John Deland  
Mat Bartlet 1753  
John Gilbert  
Abner Smith died 1755  
William Ayers 1754  
Andrew Kimbal  
Nathan Gould 1757  
Ester Taylor 1742  
E. Small  
Susan Watson 1742  
Hannah Bartlet 1744  
Abigail Bigelow 1743  
Meriam Kimball  
Rebecca Smith  
Rebecca Bartlet 1743  
John Woodbury 1747  
Michael Howard 1744  
Hannah Gould  
Rebecca Barnes  
Abigail Woolcot  
Abigail Woolcot  
Ellis Hinds  
Males omitted re-remembered  
X Andrew Hornmitten  
Ester Barnes  
Mary Riggs  
Eli Gilbert  
John Taylor  
Abigail Cutler  
Deborah Barnes  
Deborah Weeks  
Sarah Lane

At a meeting of a number of Brethren living in the Second Precinct in Brookfield in order to embody into a Church State. A sermon to the occasion was preached by [Minister] Eli Forbes after [which] prayers being made [said] Brethren chose [Joshua] Eaton who was at the request present moderator of [said] meeting. The Brethren then offered the Sitter of --- mission from the Respective Churches they did belong to which being Publicly read together with the Covenant above and no objection being made imbodying into a Church said Brethren Publicly and Solemnly owned and Subscribed said Covenant.

Attes. Joshua Eaton moderator

These Following Subscribed at the time:

Eli Forbes  
John Watson  
Jabeth Ayers  
Ebenezer Witt  
Noah Barnes  
John Cutter  
Benjamin Adams  
Abram How  
Ammiel Weeks  
Ichabod How 1766  
Abner Tyler  
Thomas Hall  
Uriah Gilbert  
Joseph Stone  
Moses Ayers  
Charles Adams  
Moses Barnes  
Jason Bigelow  
Nathan Stevens  
Thomas Taylor  
Ephraim Cutler  
Daniel Newall  
Jonathan Gilbert  
Aaron Barnes  
Isaac Cutter  
John Witt

Easter Watson  
Mary Tucker  
Martha How  
Sarah How  
Abigail Cutter  
Rebecca Witt  
Mary Witt  
Abigail Gilbert  
Hannah Barnes  
Rebecca Ayers  
Easter Gilbert  
Elizabeth Gilbert  
Meriam Newall  
Sarah Ayers  
Rebeckah Adams  
Persis Adams  
Naomi Taylor died 1756  
Annah Barnes  
Phebe How 1756  
Mary How  
Mary Stevens  
Hannah Bartlet  
Anna Hayward 1764  
Mercy Ayers  
Abigail Witt  
Elizabeth Batchelor  
Mary Forbes  
Mary How  
Abiel Slayton  
Mary Beacon  
Patiane Brown  
Elesa Edmons  
Elesa Cutter  
Mary Watson  
Mercy Hinckley  
Lucy Gilbert  
Abigail Cutler  
Deborah Barnes  
Deborah Weeks  
Sarah Lane

The following are new members added to the Church since its Imbodying:

Benjamin Gilbert 1753  
Peter Lamson  
Samuel Gould, Jr.  
Jen Woodbury 1757  
Jedediah Deland  
Jeremiah Gould April 13, 1766  
Mat Bartlet 1753  
Daniel Gilbert  
Abram Smith died 1755  
William Ayers --- 1754  
Andrew Kimbal  
Joseph Manning - May 7, 1763  
Nathan Gould 1757  
William Watson 1752  
Females:  
Susannah Watson 1752  
Hannah Bartlet 1754  
Bothiah Witt  
Mary How  
Rebecca Kimball  
Abigail Bigelow 1753  
Meriam Pickard  
Rhoda Smith  
Rebecca Bartlet 1753  
Jerusha Woodbury 1757  
Rachel Ayers 1754  
Sarah Gould  
Eliza Barnes  
Rachel Hain  
Dinah Hinds  
Abigail Woolcot  
Martha Rice  
Ellis Hinds  
Males Omitted new members  
Ruben Hamilton  
David Barnes  
Thomas Riggs  
Obediah Bartlet  
E--- How  
John Lamson  
Ayers

The Following withdrew Since admitted Church:

Thomas Bartlet  
Oliver Hayward  
Josiah Converse  
John Beacon  
Tomas Slayton  
John Batcheler  
Hubert Gould  
Samuel Gould  
The following are ---  
--- from other Churches  
Mehetable Gould  
Hannah Gould