

The Covenant of the Rochester Area Mennonite Fellowship (1977)

The Mennonite congregation located in the greater Rochester area shall be known as the Rochester Area Mennonite Fellowship.

The Fellowship acknowledges its identity with the Biblical and historical doctrines and principles of the Mennonite Church. (*Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*, 1995)

The Great Commission having been given equally to all individuals, this fellowship interprets the concept of personhood to include equality of responsibility, equality of opportunity, and equality of authority for all members. Hence, the final authority on all matters rests with the members. Differences of doctrinal or cultural application which may reflect the background of a member shall not be considered as tests of fellowship by this congregation. In all such cases it shall be the responsibility of the individual to seek the Lord's will for his/her own life and to live according to the scriptural light received both personally and through fellowship with the members.

In light of the preceding statement, we covenant together:

1. to increase our understanding of God, by utilizing such activities as worship, meditation, prayer, Bible study, and Christian fellowship; to learn what it means to love God with our whole being.
2. to love each other with Christ's kind of love; to aid each other in discovering the fullest expression of life by affirming and supporting, by giving and receiving counsel concerning an interdependent lifestyle of Christian stewardship, and by dealing with conflicts in the manner prescribed by Christ.
3. to extend this healing relationship of Christian love to those not of this fellowship.