



Suncrest Leadership Covenant

Leadership in the body of Christ is a privilege and a responsibility. Suncrest is absolutely dependent on volunteer leaders to fulfill our common mission – **To Be Used by God to Change Lives.**

As you step into leadership, our staff and elders commit to lead you with excellence and a servant-spirit. Your staff leader will:

- Support you with care and resources to carry out your ministry.
- Develop you as a leader, coaching you to reproduce more leaders.
- Pray for you by name at least weekly.

The Bible says leaders and teachers are held to higher standards in the church because the reputation of the church and the direction of the church are dependent upon us. For that reason – to guide and guard our ministry – our elders ask all leaders to make a covenant with God and each other in 5 areas.

1. **Unity** – Leaders at Suncrest will always strive to protect the unity of the church. We will speak positively of other church leaders and handle any disagreements according to the instruction of Jesus in Matthew 18 – to address issues directly and privately with the appropriate person, never making them a subject of gossip or other unwholesome conversation.
2. **Baptism in response to faith** – As leaders, we will be baptized by immersion in response to following Christ. The Bible talks about how this personal choice to be baptized identifies us with Jesus Christ and shows our willingness to follow Him publicly. For this reason, our elders ask anyone previously baptized as an infant to take this step now that they have chosen to follow Christ on their own.
3. **Elder Authority** – The Bible places an enormous responsibility on the elders of a local church. In humility, their commission is to guide our church in the direction Jesus Christ wants it to go and to guard it from any person or teaching that would damage the church. As leaders at Suncrest, we are agreeing to take direction from the elders and supporting them at all times.
4. **Safety** – In guarding our ministry, all leaders and teachers submit to policies and procedures that safeguard our church. One example of this is that all leaders undergo criminal background checks. In areas where past issues are identified in someone’s life, Suncrest always takes a personally redemptive, yet cautious approach about placing people in leadership positions.
5. **Commitment to the 4 C’s** – Leaders have a personal commitment to growing as a “4C Christ-follower.” We also seek to focus our ministry leadership on helping others grow in one or more of the 4 C’s.

Leader Signature: _____ Date: _____

Coach: _____ Staff Leader: _____

I lead in the following Ministries: _____

Baptism Date: _____
 Date of Last Spiritual Inventory: _____
 Background Check: Turned in Date Approved: _____

Suncrest Christian Church – 4 C's

1. **Connect in Relationships where Truth meets Life.** *Nurturing friendships with substance and living in true community is a need God has created in each one of us. At Suncrest, we ask all leaders to help us live this value out by participating in a community group.*
2. **Cultivate a Personal Relationship with Jesus.** *He is the source of life and joy and peace and salvation. Christianity has never been about rules, it has always been about personally knowing God. This is commonly developed by spiritual habits like prayer, worship, and scripture reading. Financial giving is also central to this as tithing is ultimately about trusting God and His promise to bless our generosity.*
3. **Contribute by Serving.** *The unselfish life is the most satisfying. Serving God and serving others stirs something in us that is larger than ourselves. Jesus modeled this for us, saying even He did not come to be served, but to serve. We are excited that you are fulfilling this value by leading in a ministry!*
4. **Care about people far from God.** *With all God has done for us, we'd be crazy not to encourage those we love to know Him too. Share His grace and His love with someone every day this year. Pray for lost people. Actively support Suncrest's vision as a church planting church.*

Statement of Faith

All of our beliefs are based on the Bible. Below are the essential matters where unity is paramount. In non-essential matters of interpretation, we value the liberty to graciously hold differing views. In all things, we strive to love everyone.

We believe that Scripture in its entirety originated with God and was intended for use by man in all matters of faith and conduct. Scripture does reflect the personalities of the human writers who were chosen by God. However, the Bible is a revelation from God alone. It is perfectly accurate, authoritative, complete, and reliable. (1Timothy 4:13; 2Timothy 3:16; Revelation 22:18-19)

The Bible Teaches that God is the sovereign Creator and the Lord of all that exists. He is one and yet exists eternally in three personalities: Father, Son (Jesus Christ), and Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1, Galatians 3:20, Hebrews 1:1-3)

The Bible Teaches that Sin separates us from God. Sin is any conscious thought or action that does not please God. It is the mark of human imperfection and the reason we are in need of reconciliation to God. (Romans 3:23, James 1:13-15)

The Bible Teaches that Jesus Christ is God's eternally existing son. He lived on earth in human form as a product of miraculous conception and virgin birth. Jesus lived a sinless life and was a willing sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on the cross. His resurrection after death provided an opportunity for all people to have abundant and eternal life. (John 3:16, John 10:10, John 14:7)

The Bible Teaches that the Holy Spirit is God who comes to live within every believer at conversion. He provides the believer with all that is necessary (direction, gifts, fruit) to live within the will of God. (Acts 2:38, Romans 12:4-8, Galatians 5:22-23)

The Bible Teaches that Human Beings, though created in the very image of God, have chosen to disobey God by sinning. It is only by the perfect sacrifice of Christ that human beings can be reconciled to God. (Romans 3:23, Galatians 3:22)

The Bible Teaches that Salvation is an act of God's love and grace. This gift from God is free to any person who chooses to follow Jesus Christ in faith as his/her Savior. That eternal gift is appropriated as a believer demonstrates trust by obeying Him as Lord. (Romans 5:8, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8)