



## Being an Adult Member of the Diocese of Montana

In Holy Baptism God acts on us by joining us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, anointing us with the Holy Spirit, and promising to guide us and abide with us till the end of time. Because of this gracious act of God, we are called to live in the new creation, inaugurated in our Lord's resurrection. This new and life-giving way of living is described in general terms in the "Baptismal Covenant" in *The Book of Common Prayer* (pgs. 304-305).

We offer the following as a practical guide to being the Church, the Body of Christ, as it takes concrete form in our congregations and diocese, inviting you to use these to examine your involvement in the Church.

1. I will be faithful in attendance at Holy Eucharist, knowing that communing once per week is the minimal norm.
2. I will pray daily for the church catholic, the diocese, the bishop, my congregation, my vestry, and my priest as part of my daily discipline of prayer.
3. I will give generously of my income for the work of Christ through the Church, knowing that the tithe (10% of one's income) is the norm.
4. I will analyze my talents and interests so that I can develop a personal ministry both outside and inside the church.
5. I will speak well of my congregation, priest, deacon, bishop, diocese, and The Episcopal Church in public.
6. I will analyze my life journey so that I am aware of and can tell the story of God's gracious action in my life.
7. If I am in conflict with another member, I will not gossip or triangulate, but speak directly and privately with that person.
8. I will seek to grow in my relationship with our Lord and in my knowledge of scripture, prayer, theology, the Prayer Book, and the sacraments.
9. I will support my priest, deacon and bishop by prayer and by interpreting their words and actions in a charitable way.
10. I will invite other to church and share my God story, when appropriate, with them.

*Prepared by:* Bishop Frank Brookhart and The Standing Committee