



Fellowship Covenant
2010 - 2017

“Better Together”

Hope International Church (“HIC”)

Db a of Arcadia Christian Reformed Church and The Bread of Life LA

FELLOWSHIP COVENANT

Introduction

This Agreement is entered into as of the 3rd day of October, 2010, by the following partners in HIC (individually “Ministry” and collectively “Ministries”):

1. Chinese Ministry, formerly the Bread of Life Church of LA (“BOL” or “Chinese ministry”),
2. English Ministry, currently known as Hope International Church (“English ministry”).
3. Hispanic Ministry, currently known as Comunidad Cristiana el Mesias (“Hispanic ministry”)
4. Indonesian Ministry, currently the Indonesian Christian Reformed Church (“ICRC” or “Indonesian ministry”).
5. Korean Ministry, currently known as Hope Korean (“Korean ministry”).

Biographies for these Ministries are attached as Exhibit A. These Ministries shall be called Hope International Church (HIC), the d/b/a for the Arcadia Christian Reformed Church, and function under the Articles of Incorporation of this 501 c3 corporation. This Agreement will be in effect until January 1, 2017, subject to the termination provisions in this Agreement, and renewable thereafter.

General Provisions

The Ministries agree to the following:

1. This Agreement replaces and revises the Fellowship Covenant, effective May 15, 2005 and expiring on October 3, 2010.
2. The Ministries desire to form a Board (“HIC Board”) to oversee the ownership of the properties located at 1741 S. Baldwin Avenue, 1731 S. Baldwin Avenue, 1735 S. Baldwin Avenue, and 721 W. Lemon Street in Arcadia, CA. (“Properties”). The 1731 and 1735 S. Baldwin Avenue properties shall remain as the parsonage for the English ministry during the term of this Agreement.
3. The English ministry desires to place the ownership of the Properties under the control of the HIC Board and the direction of the Christian Reformed Church of North America currently through its Synod and Classis Greater Los Angeles
4. The Ministries desire and intend to remain part of the Christian Reformed Church of North America (“CRCNA”) and subject to CRCNA’s guidance in the use of the Properties and the Ministries service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
5. The Ministries agree to adopt the HIC Articles of Incorporation and develop By-Laws in substantial compliance with this Fellowship Covenant.
6. Any modification or amendment to this Fellowship Covenant, the HIC Articles of Incorporation or the HIC By-Laws shall be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the HIC Board, shall be in writing and be signed by the Ministries’ authorized representatives.

Terms and Conditions

The Ministries agree hereto, hereby covenant and commit to adhere to the following matters:

1. We commit ourselves and wholly agree and subscribe to the HIC Statement of Beliefs attached as Exhibit B.
2. We commit to electing the HIC Board to oversee the Ministries. The process shall be that the designated pastor of each Ministry shall be a voting member of the HIC Board. Each Ministry shall elect 1 voting member in addition to its pastor. An additional voting member shall be elected by ~~to~~ a Ministry with a membership between 100 and 200 adults, and another HIC Board voting member shall be ~~given for~~ by a Ministry with over 200 adult members. Except for the pastors, the HIC Board membership shall be renewable 2-year terms.
3. We agree that the HIC Board shall meet as necessary, but at least monthly, and elect members of the HIC Board to serve as its Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, plus any other leadership roles as it deems necessary. During the term of this Agreement, the pastor of the English ministry shall serve as President.
4. We agree that the pastor of the English ministry shall serve as the administrator of HIC and lead pastor during the term of this Agreement and in that capacity answers directly to the HIC Board.

At the HIC Board meetings, emphasis shall be placed upon building relationships, discussing intra-ministry interactions, making suggestions and policies about common ministries, resolving areas of conflict, communicating each Ministries' plans, managing expenditures from the Combined Ministry Fund (defined below), and managing and maintaining the Properties.

The pastors of the five Ministries shall meet regularly for encouragement, planning, and professional growth. As Ministries, we agree to worship together at least 4 times a year.

Each Ministry covenants to pay its share of its offerings as agreed upon by the HIC Board to the Combined Ministry Fund for the common costs of maintaining the buildings and doing ministry together. These Ministry Shares are gathered, controlled and administered by the HIC Board.

The HIC Board shall form a Budget Committee of three or more people including the Treasurer, which shall evaluate the financial statements of the Ministries at least annually to adjust or set a new Ministry Share amount each Ministry pays to the Combined Ministry Fund. This Budget Committee will deal with special circumstances that affect a Ministry's ability to pay their ministry share, deal with delinquencies, and recommend to the HIC Board changes for assessing ministry shares. In November of each year the Budget Committee will present to the HIC Board a proposed Combined HIC Ministry Fund budget for the next calendar year and prepare a financial report of the annual income and expenses. This proposed budget shall be voted on at the HIC Board meeting in December and may be revised, rejected or accepted by the HIC Board, in its

sole discretion, by majority vote. The final proposed budget shall be presented to the HIC membership for their information by December 31 of each calendar year. At least three members of this Budget Committee, or its designees, will be the check signers for the Combined Ministry Fund. Some of HIC's values embedded in the budget are our commitment to being Christian Reformed together, supporting missionary work together, doing programs together, owning and maintaining the Properties together, and benefiting from its resource generating potential together.

Ministry Activities

The authority of the HIC Board shall extend over the maintenance of the Properties including commonly used equipment and the planning and implementation of expansions and the over all development of the campus. An individual Ministry shall seek the approval of the HIC Board for the initiation, deletion, and expansion of ministry programs, especially those that use facility space and are integral to the mission of HIC. The HIC Board shall also oversee the equitable use of facility space for the Ministries. The HIC Board will oversee the planning and implementation of multi-ministry services, meetings, activities, ministries and/or programs to accomplish the mission of the church. The HIC Board will do the hiring, the creating of job descriptions, and the supervising of the custodian and our other multi-ministry staff. The HIC Board will be responsible for establishing and maintaining guidelines for the daily operations of the church, setting policies, and dealing with other legal actions of HIC. The HIC Board will oversee the Combined Ministries Fund and its budgeted income and expenses. The HIC Board will oversee the inclusion of a new Ministry in HIC and develop policies regarding the process. An individual Ministry shall advise the HIC Board when hiring new full-time pastors for its Ministry. The HIC Board will develop a unified set of guidelines and policies in dealing with pastors.

Although the HIC Board will have the authority of the governing executive of HIC its authority will be guided by Article 85 of the CRC Church Order which states that "No church [Ministry] shall in any way lord it over another Ministry, and no office bearer shall lord it over another office bearer." In other words the HIC Board should not unduly restrict the dignity and effectiveness of any of the Ministries. The HIC Board is limited in scope to matters specifically spoken of in the Church Order and those matters enumerated in this Fellowship Covenant.

The authority or duty of the individual Ministry shall include, though not limited to the following matters: (a) select its own pastoral staff as specified by the Church Order; (b) be responsible and accountable for its own financial budgeting, collection of tithes and offerings, bookkeeping, and payment of expenses, except those specified in the Combined Ministries budget; and (c) development of its own ministries and programs.

If in the exclusive determination and upon majority vote of the HIC Board a party to this covenant has failed to comply with its terms, the HIC Board may in its sole discretion suspend or modify some or all of such party's privileges hereunder on such

terms and conditions as it shall determine, including termination of all rights in this Fellowship Covenant.

Any party hereto may withdraw from this Fellowship Covenant at any time by giving written notice of such withdrawal to the HIC Board and the other Ministries. Such withdrawal shall become effective immediately. In the event that a party withdraws from this covenant such party forfeits and loses any and all rights and privileges created hereunder.

We the Undersigned, on Behalf of the Ministries We Represent, Hereby Bind Ourselves and Our Ministries to This Fellowship Covenant and Agree to Faithfully Conduct Our Selves in Adherence Thereto, God Helping us.

Chinese ministry _____

English Ministry _____

Hispanic Ministry _____

Indonesian Ministry _____

Korean Ministry _____

Exhibit A
Hope International Church
MINISTRIES DESCRIPTIONS

English Ministry. *The English Ministry functions under the name Hope International Church (HIC) the dba name of The Arcadia Christian Reformed Church (ACRC). ACRC is a 501c3 tax exempt charitable organization and functions under the umbrella of the Christian Reformed Church of North America (CRCNA). The English Ministry is an “established church” member of the Greater Los Angeles Classis of the CRCNA. The ACRC was incorporated in May 13, 1941 and remains active to this day. At present the council of the English Ministry functions as the board of trustees of this corporation and its four property holdings 1731 S Baldwin, 1735 S Baldwin, 1741 S. Baldwin, and 721 Lemon. The articles of incorporation specify that the Church Order of the CRCNA be adhered to in the election of board members and the structural organization of the church. The English speaking worship service is at 10 AM on Sundays and averages 40 – 50 people. The English Ministry is pastored by Sid and Adriana Sybenga who are both ordained “Ministers of the Word” in the CRC.*

Indonesian Ministry. *The Indonesian Ministry presently functions under the name Indonesian Christian Reformed Church (ICRC). The Indonesian Ministry started in 1993 as a church plant in Monterey Park. After several years of struggle they moved to Arcadia in 1997. The Indonesian Ministry worships Sunday afternoons at 3 PM averaging 10 - 25 people. The Indonesian Ministry is pastored (bi-vocationally) by Leonard Siregar who is an ordained “Minister of the Word” in the CRCNA. The Indonesian Ministry is an unincorporated “emerging congregation” member of the Greater Los Angeles Classis. The sponsoring and supervising church is the English Ministry.*

Chinese Ministry. *The Chinese Ministry, presently functions under the name of Hope International Church the dba name of the Bread of Life of LA (BoL). The BoL is a 501c3 tax exempt charitable organization and functions under the umbrella of the Christian Reformed Church of North America (CRCNA). The Chinese Ministry is a 2002 merger of three smaller congregations and moved to Arcadia in 2003 to join Hope International Church. The Chinese Ministry became an “established church” member of the Greater Los Angeles Classis of the CRCNA in 2008. The Chinese Ministry worships on Sundays at 11:30 AM averaging 150-200 people. The Chinese Ministry is pastored (bi-vocationally) by Sherman Lii who is a locally ordained pastor and functions in the HIC CRC as a “preaching elder”. The Chinese Ministry is also served by Faith Lim, a locally ordained Minister of Congregational Life.*

Korean Ministry. *The Korean Ministry functions under the direction and supervision of the English Ministry. The Korean Ministry was started as a CRCNA church plant in 2006. In 2008 the Korean Ministry pastor returned to Korea for immigration reasons and Myoung Bok Han took over the leadership of this group. Myoung Bok is a Fuller Seminary Student who was locally ordained in HIC CRC as the “preaching elder”. The Korean Ministry worships on Sundays at 1 PM averaging 5 - 10 people.*

Hispanic Ministry. *The Hispanic Ministry presently functions under the name Comunidad Cristiana el Mesias (CCM). The CCM was a Pasadena church plant started in 2002 and moved to Arcadia in 2004 to join Hope International Church. The Hispanic Ministry is an unincorporated unaffiliated ministry. The Hispanic Ministry worships Sunday afternoons at 5 PM averaging 10 - 15 people. They are led by the pastor and are an independent ministry aspiring to become CRCNA affiliated. The Hispanic Ministry is pastored (bi-vocationally) by Marco Arandia who was locally ordained as the HIC CRC a “preaching elder”.*

Exhibit B
Hope International Church
STATEMENT OF BELIEF

We believe:

- A. God has called us as a church to minister in our community (Matthew 28:19-20).
1. As a church, we are missionaries commitment to reaching the ever-changing ethnically diverse people in the Arcadia, Temple City, Pasadena areas.
 2. Our intention is to develop and maintain ministries that address the human and spiritual needs of people in the community, always aware of the changing demographics in the community.
- B. God has called us to worship and to minister together as one church with multiple language specific ministries (Mark 12:30-31; Acts 2:42-47) .
1. We believe that the ministry of our church is enriched by the diversity both of our members and of the community, and strengthened by the unity we experience as a result of our shared calling and vision of ministry in our community. We recognize the challenges to the unity of the church in a multi-cultural environment , but as one church we are committed to building a spirit of unity through combined worship services, joint programming, and shared ministries to the community. Our theme is ***“Better Together”***.
 2. We believe that our organizational structure and our use of the resources which God has entrusted to us should reflect both our spiritual unity in the body of Christ and the diversity of our community.
 3. We believe that one of the great resources God has given us for ministry is our church facility located at 1741 South Baldwin in Arcadia, and that it is our responsibility as good stewards of this resource to maintain it adequately, use it to its full potential, and develop it for maximum ministry effect.
- C. God has called us as ministries of Hope International Church to be members of the Christian Reformed Church (CRC). As church ministries we have equal standing (Eph 2:14; James 2:1).
1. Each Ministry will be a separate ministry with its own rights and responsibilities.
 2. As a CRC Church we subscribe to and teach the core Reformed beliefs of the faith (see item H) and use the Church Order to shape our ministries.
 3. The church facility is held in trust under the legal corporation of Hope International Church. We believe that the church belongs to God.
 4. The members of each ministry have a shared responsibility for determining policy regarding facilities, equipment, and joint programming.
 5. The members of each ministry have a shared proportional financial responsibility for maintaining the facilities and supporting the jointly-sponsored ministries through the Combined Ministry Fund.
- D. God has called us to bring glory to God by being Christ-like in the world. We do that by making disciples of Jesus and hoping, praying, and working for the expansion of the kingdom of God and the growth of our multi lingual communities. We believe that
1. Intimacy with God empowers us for life and ministry, and so we worship and pray with passion and joy.
 2. All people are created in the image of God - equal, valued, and gifted, and so we welcome each other and newcomers without prejudice, and we use our gifts.

3. Jesus calls us to build each other up in love, and so we participate in small groups and offer hospitality to all.
- E. God has called us to be a multi-lingual ministry church for all nations. The reasons for forming a multi-lingual ministry Church are biblical. As disciples of Jesus we want to follow his command. He told us that the Holy Spirit would make us his witness in Jerusalem, and all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Our church is a ministry to many nations because; as Jesus said in Mark 11:17 the church is a house of prayer for all the nations. In his priestly prayer in John 17 Jesus prayed for the unity of all believers and that all of them may be one. We believe that this should be an actual reality in the church. Galatians 3:26 says that in Christ there is no Greek or Jew, male or female. The church should be one body, for we have one Spirit and one faith. Jesus' mission in the world was to break down the barriers between races and cultures through the cross, forming one people of God (Ephesians 2:15-16). Like God we should show no favoritism and no discrimination (Romans 2:11; James 2:1), rather we should look to the interests of others (Philippians 2:4). Our ministry is one of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:), not separation or isolation. The sweep of redemptive history shows this drive toward the unity of all God's people among the diversity of nations. In the beginning God said to Abraham that the blessing through him was for all nations (Gen 11), than at Pentecost (Acts 2), the gospel was preached in all languages and the spirit was poured on all people so that when John saw the vision of the glorified church in Revelation 5 it was a picture of people from all nations gathered around the one throne of God in unified praise.
- F. God has called us to join together as a multi-lingual ministry church. Although we have our needs as individual ministries and our practical reasons for joining together as one church the main reason we join together is the Bible tells us so. Jesus is our head and the pioneer of our faith and in obedience to him we discern that the most appropriate church structure in our multi ethnic LA environment is a multi-lingual ministry Church. We defined a multi -lingual ministry church (MLC) with the following statements
1. A MLC is a church that is challenged by Jesus to make the church a place of prayer for all nations.
 2. It seeks to emphasize the unity of the body of Christ in the context of racial division; yet celebrates diversity.
 3. What unites us as a MLC is our common belief in Jesus as Lord, our common purpose in sharing the good news of salvation in Jesus, our working together in local and global ministry, and celebrating our diversity.
 4. The MLC builds relationships between language groups as a way of creating this unity of purpose and cultural appreciation.
 5. The MLC displays in its very structure and mode of operation the mosaic of God's all nations kingdom.
 6. The MLC allows each ministry to be responsible and interdependent.
 7. This MLC model does not seek to assimilate ethnic distinctiveness of each group but to use them as a path to God's expanding kingdom.
 8. In the MLC we accept people of all backgrounds as equal and welcome them as participating members and ministers in the church.
- G. God has called us to confess our faith in unity. As Christians together we believe the following essentials of the faith.

ABC's of Faith at Hope

Awareness of our fallen condition

- Because of our sin we are estranged from God, each other, and the creation.
- We with all creation need a savior to restore the shalom of all creation.

Belief in God

- The Bible is the inspired infallible Word of God; our only authority for life and faith.
- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are the sovereign true God.
- By grace alone we are drawn into a covenant relationship with God, through faith.
- Through the Holy Spirit we are being made alive and new.

Called into a relationship in Christ

- Jesus is the Son of God, our only Lord and Savior, sent by the Father to save us.
- The heart of faith is a personal relationship with Jesus initiated by confessing our sin.
- As his disciples we surrender to Jesus in every area of life and live out his teachings.

Dedicated to the mission of the Church

- The church is God's chosen people to make disciples of all nations.
- Through word, sacraments and kingdom deeds the church shares the message of Jesus.
- Our mission also includes caring for the creation and transforming every human endeavor for the glory of God.

Eternal destiny

- God's blessings and the gift of eternal life are for all peoples.
- Jesus will return again to renew the whole creation and raise believers to eternal life.



Believer's Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and need your forgiveness. I believe that you as the Son of God died on the cross for my sins. I want to turn from my sins and ask you to forgive me. I now invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust you and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Thank you for making me part of your great family. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and use me for your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

- H. God has called us to confess our faith in unity with the greater church. Hope International Church is part of the Reformed Evangelical branch of the faith (The Christian Reformed Church in North America) and stands on the beliefs of the historic Christian faith, namely the Apostles' Creed, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Contemporary Testimony. These confessions emphasize a living covenant relationship with God through Jesus so that we can be used in God's mission of making all things new.

HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH BOARD COMPOSITION AND DUTIES

The HIC Board

English	Chinese	Indonesian	Spanish	Korean
Designated Pastor	Designated Pastor	Designated Pastor	Designated Pastor	Designated Pastor
1 member	3 members	1 member	1 member	1 member

HIC Board Officers

PRESIDENT/ADMINISTRATOR/LEAD PASTOR:
(English Ministry Pastor designated until 2017)

ELECTED OFFICERS

VICE PRESIDENT TREASURER SECRETARY

**Budget Committee
(Check Signers)**

Board Authority and Duties:

Maintenance, Expansion, Development,
Use of space, Planning and Implementation
Hiring joint staff and new pastors, Policies, Combined
Ministry Fund and budgeting, Encouraging unity & mission