

This covenant was signed by pastors and leaders from over 16 Christian ministries in the Greater Glens Falls Area in June 2007. It was signed in front of over 1400 Christians who were part of the various ministries. For many leaders, this prayer continues to guide our thoughts and actions.

*Father in heaven,*

*As pastors and leaders, we admit that the Body of Christ in the Greater Glens Falls Area has presented a distorted picture of You.*

- *While You are a God of unity, we have been divided*
- *While You are generous to us, the undeserving, we have, through attitudes and actions, withheld the grace of friendship and care from those whose lives are broken*
- *While You are the God of truth, we have chosen to walk in the shadows by giving preference to our image rather than to our true character*
- *While You relentlessly pursue the lost, we have withdrawn from the most needy - choosing to focus most of our time, energy and resources on those who are already redeemed*
- *While You are a great and good God, we have chosen to rely on our wisdom and strength rather than upon You*
- *While You look upon the heart, we have chosen to focus on externals – denominational labels, styles of worship and peripheral doctrinal issues*

*We repent of the pride, fear, self-sufficiency, competition and dishonesty that have fractured Your beautiful Body. Before You, and these witnesses, we covenant to:*

- *Join together as co-laborers rather than to view each other as competitors*
- *Pray for one another – endeavoring to live out Christ's command to bear one another's burdens*
- *Rejoice as other congregations experience God's blessing and to mourn when congregations experience division or loss*
- *Guard our tongues lest we diminish the standing of a leader in the Body of Christ through careless words*
- *Seek to open avenues for communication and through communication to live in unity - for when we stand in unity there we will experience Your commanded blessing*
- *Celebrate our common standing as children of the living God through faith in Jesus Christ*
- *Rejoice in our unique histories, personalities and experiences believing your design for the Church includes diversity*
- *Make the goal of knowing and experiencing and expressing Christ our highest aim - that He might receive honor and glory!*