



PARTNERSHIP RENEWAL

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of **your partnership in the gospel** from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus... And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.
-Philippians 1:3-6; 9-11

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.
-1 Corinthians 12:27

At South Harbor, we believe in the importance of our partnership in the gospel. God calls **all people** to be a part of **one body** – His church. His people are then **equipped** and **invited** into **his mission** – to be their God, and for them to be his people. [Genesis 17:6-7, Revelation 21:3b] We are all invited **to partner together** with other believers in **seeking the Kingdom of God**.

As followers of the way of Jesus, we are invited to partner with other followers within the local church. Paul helped launch numerous indigenous expressions of the kingdom in local communities through people **gathered in worship** and **scattered in mission**. Thank you for partnering with us over this past year. We are inviting you to **renew your partnership with us** at South Harbor as we seek to be the **church on mission** in our own local context.

Renewing Your Partnership

- Revisit your faith story. Write about how your faith has changed over this past year.
- Small Group and/or Ministry Team Involvement
- Complete the CompassPoints Assessment at <http://www.southharbor.org/assessments>
- Agree to the 4 Partnership Statements.

For more information, to ask questions, or to get clarification on any items, feel free to email us at partnership@southharbor.org.

We are thankful that you are a part of this congregation and look forward to our partnership in the gospel!

Your partner in the gospel,

Tom Elenbaas
Campus Pastor
South Harbor Church

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. I pray that **your partnership** with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

-Philemon 1:4-7

My Faith Story

In becoming a partner before, you were asked to write out your faith story. As you now recommit, we are asking you to share a few thoughts about how God has been working in your story over this past year. Each year, as you add to your story, you slowly are developing a spiritual biography.

Partnership in Transformation

“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.”

-Romans 8:29

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

-Romans 12:2

The Bible talks a lot about transformation and about being changed. In Galatians 4:19, Paul uses the phrase, “until Christ is formed in you.” This is a powerful phrase, and an amazing goal to pursue – to have Jesus Christ formed in us. Christian writer Dallas Willard says it this way, “Christian spiritual formation is the redemptive process of forming the inner human world so that it takes on the character of the inner being of Christ himself.” In other places, Paul lists what such a person formed to be like Jesus looks like. The list in Galatians 5:22 is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control and in Colossians 3 he lists compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, love, unity, peace, thankfulness, admonishment, wisdom, and worship. Reflect below or in a journal upon how God has transformed you to be more like Christ since you’ve come to know him. In what ways would you like to be more like Jesus?

Partnering in transformation – one of our partnership values - means that you are not only open to be changed by the gospel, but that you are seeking to be transformed by the renewing of your mind, and that you wish to be conformed to the image of Christ – that you want to change. But more than that, it also means you are willing to help others change to be more like Jesus. Reflect below or in a journal on people in your life that have helped you be more like Jesus.

Next Steps

Intentionality is something that is often a problem for many of us. The distance between belief and transformation is intentionality. Your next step is to do something intentional to participate in how God is changing you and changing others through you. This might be committing to specific spiritual practices, getting a mentor, or being a mentor. For additional help in being more intentional, email change@southharbor.org to connect with a mentor or spiritual guide help you with some next steps.

Assignment

Find out where you are currently in your spiritual journey through the CompassPoints Assessment. You can find it at www.southharbor.org/assessments. It’s a simple spiritual formation assessment that can help you discover areas of strength and growth in your spiritual. This can be helpful as you seek to be intentional about next steps in growing spiritually. There are many tools available to help in your spiritual journey, but probably the best is to meet with a mentor or spiritual guide. For more information, send an email to us at change@southharbor.org.

Partnership Renewal Form

4 Partnership Statements

Partnering with South Harbor involves first a belief in Jesus Christ as Savior and allegiance to him as Lord of your life. It also involves an agreement to deepen your personal life in relationship to the church body and your influence with those who are far from God. The following, then, are the 4 Partnership Statements, and we ask you to reaffirm these in order to renew your partnership at South Harbor Church:

- I believe in my heart the God raised Jesus from the dead as my Savior and I **CONFESS** that Jesus is the Lord of my life.
- I agree to **CONNECT** by *partnering in community* through intentional relationships with others inside and outside the church.
- I agree to **COMMIT** by *partnering in ministry* through my time, talents, and treasures inside and outside the church.
- I agree to **CHANGE** by *partnering in transformation* through a life-giving impact of the gospel in my own life and in the lives of others.

Last Name: _____ First Name & Middle Initial: _____

Signature _____ Date ____ - ____ - ____

Any additional information you would like to share:

Return additions to your faith story and this page to South Harbor by dropping them off at Connecting Point, or mail to:
South Harbor Church, 1951 – 64th Street SW, Byron Center, MI 49315