

THE AMPLEFORTH COVENANT

We believe that we are being led by the Holy Spirit, and that God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, is calling us to a greater sharing in his Mission to the world.

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We recognise that we have in common many similar responsibilities, joys, problems and hopes, and that we have much to offer and receive from each other in the rich diversity of our traditions.

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We rejoice in the growing partnership between our churches at national, regional, and local levels.

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As Church Leaders in the North East, we commit ourselves:
to meet annually for prayer and reflection
to proclaim and preach the faith
to be a sign of hope and encouragement to all
to bear each others burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ

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It is hoped that, through our friendship and commitment, we will bring vision to our Churches and, where possible, encourage, through appropriate intermediate bodies,
local covenants and partnerships
the sharing of our resources and decision making, especially in rural areas,
inner cities and on new estates
the use of our buildings creatively together
the sharing of resources in training for laity and ordained

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We will review regularly the purposes and objectives of the Covenant:

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We invite our congregations to support us in this Covenant to which we now commit ourselves in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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Signed on December 4th 1998 by:

*The Most Revd. & Rt. Hon. David Hope, Archbishop of York,
The Revd. Stuart Burgess, Chairman of the York & Hull Methodist District,
The Rt. Revd. John Crowley, Bishop of Middlesbrough,
The Rt. Revd. Humphrey Taylor, Bishop of Selby,
The Revd. Graham Carter, Chairman of the Darlington Methodist District,
The Rt. Revd. Ambrose Griffiths, Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle
The Rt. Revd. Michael Turnbull, Bishop of Durham,
The Revd. Robin Hutt, Chairman of the Newcastle Methodist District
The Rt. Revd. David Konstant, Bishop of Leeds,
The Rt. Revd. Alan Smithson, Bishop of Jarrow
The Revd. Arnold Harrison, Yorkshire Moderator of the United Reformed Church,
The Rt. Revd. Timothy Wright, Abbot of Ampleforth,
The Rt. Revd. Martin Wharton, Bishop of Newcastle
The Revd. David Jenkins, Northern Province of the United Reformed Church
Major Roy Kirby, Divisional Commander of the Northern Division of the Salvation Army,
The Rt. Revd. John Gaisford, Bishop of Beverley,
The Rt Revd Paul Richardson, Assistant Bishop of Newcastle,
The Revd. Brian Howell, Independent Church Leader,
The Rt. Revd. Gordon Bates, Bishop of Whitby*