

First Unitarian Universalist Church of West Volusia

Right Relations for a Healthy Congregation

Our congregational life calls forth our highest aspirations and best selves as we journey together to live our mission, pursue our visions, and uphold our UU principles.

We covenant / agree / promise together to:

- Create a beloved welcoming community that reflects the best of our collective selves.
- To give our time, talent, physical help and resources as we are able to keep our community vital and strong.
- Work to foster a multicultural and multigenerational community that recognizes diversity as a sign of our strength.
- Respect each other's physical and emotional boundaries and each other's privacy and autonomy.
- Work for justice and engage in acts of service and compassion to others.
- Listen appreciatively, speak respectfully, take responsibility for our actions and feelings, and practice good manners and civility in our church activities.
- Deal with one another directly and positively with the goal of resuming right relations when disagreements or conflicts occur in the life of our community.
- Speak from personal experience, use "I" statements, avoid judgment, generalizations, triangulation¹, gossip, and offering unsolicited advice.
- Provide avenues for conflict resolution to be employed when individuals or groups reach an impasse.
- Forgive others and invite them back into covenant / right relations when it is broken.

We make these covenants / agreements / promises in the spirit of love to promote harmony within our faith community.

¹ *A social model of destructive interaction that can occur among people in conflict.*
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karpman_drama_triangle