

COVENANT OF LOVE AND SERVICE

Realizing that we have been called to give leadership, guidance, and service to our local church, we covenant together to undertake our Lord's business with the highest standards of Christian ethics and behavior as befitting members of the Body of Christ. Therefore, we agree together to conduct the Lord's business by the following Christian principles:

*Because we are here to seek and to do the will of God, we will pray and wait patiently for God's direction, believing that the Holy Spirit is working through our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Ps. 25:9; Isaiah 30:21; John 14:26; John 16:13; John 17:1-26; Proverbs 3:5-6; Ps. 37:23; Isaiah 43: 18-19; Ps. 119:105; II Chron. 20: 14-22; Numbers 11:23

*We will honor and respect the uniqueness and diversity of our fellow Christians. Therefore we will encourage all among us to freely share their ideas, experiences, hopes and dreams as they envision God at work in and through our church.

John 13:34; Galatians 3:26-29 & 6:1-10; Col. 3:12-17; I Cor. 12:12-31

*Being the Body of Christ, we will refuse to use any of the devil's tools to accomplish our work: bullying, hostility, threats, intimidation, critical spirit, ridicule, malicious talk, coercion, manipulation, or anything that shows disrespect toward another Christian brother or sister.

1 Cor. 12:12-31; Galatians 5:16-26; I Peter 1:6-7; James 1:2-6; Galatians 6:1-10; Phil. 4:8; Joel 2:25; John 17:14-23; Micah 6:8; Ps. 94: 17-19; 2Cor. 4:17; Col. 3:12-17; 1 Peter 3:8-9; Eph.5:1-7; Titus 2:11-15

*Before reaching a decision on any issue, we shall allow the Holy Spirit to unify us in love, doing what we believe is the will of God. Even when some of us disagree on an issue, we can do so in a peaceful, loving, respectful manner, putting into practice the Golden Rule.

Luke 6: 31-32; Ps. 37:23-24; Isaiah 55:8-9; 1Sam. 16:7; Proverbs 20:24; Ps. 32:8-9; Isaiah 30:19-21; 2Tim.1:7; Romans 14:13; I Corinthians 13

*Once a decision is made on an issue, we will wholeheartedly support it, trusting that God is at work in our midst. We will remember that our Lord stated that the world will be convinced that we are truly His disciples if they see us working together in love and unity through the power of His Spirit.

John 17:20-23; Romans 8:28-29; 1 Cor. 12:12-31; Ephesians 4:1-3

Adopted by St. Matthias S/PPRC & Adm. Council – July 2012

As one of God's people called to be a part of the Body of Christ through St. Matthias United Methodist Church, I prayerfully commit to living by this COVENANT of LOVE and SERVICE, God being my Help and Strength.

Name _____ Date: _____

