



## RELATIONAL COVENANT

As a congregation it is our goal to understand how much God loves us. As we grow in our understanding of God's love for us, we can then better show how we love God, love one another, and love the community even when we do not agree with each other.

*To meet this goal, we agree to the following:*

### **Gratitude with Humility**

We are grateful for the blessings of church and community that God has given us. With contrite hearts, we acknowledge that we have fallen short of our Lord's desire for the church. We are thankful for God's grace and love and seek to love God, one another, and the community. (Colossians 3:16-17 and Ephesians 4:32)

### **Relationships that are God-Honoring**

We promise to value each other as gifts from God. In every way by thought, word, and deed we will seek to build relationships with each other that are pleasing to God, building each other up and not tearing each other down. We will constantly strive to be respectful of one another's point of view, graceful in our manner of communication and always acting with empathy and understanding of another's ideas or position. We will listen with an open mind and respond with thoughtfulness and sensitivity. We will focus on issues and not personalities. (John 13:34 and Romans 12:10)

### **Accept Our Differences with Respect**

While we might not always agree with one another we can accept disagreement and conflict and seek to discover what is best for the church as a whole and not our own individual desires. We promise to live by Christ's example and express areas of concern/conflict to the person they are directed to and not to others. While seeking reconciliation, doing this always in a Christ honoring and compassionate spirit, allows the Holy Spirit to grow us in Christ's likeness. (Proverbs 13:10; 2 Cor. 10:5; Philippians 2:3-4)

### **Called to Reconciliation**

We promise to maintain relationships of confidentiality rather than share private matters publicly. (Proverbs 11:13 and Colossians 3:13)

### **Encourage One Another**

We as members of the same body have different gifts given to us by our Father. We shall encourage each other to use these gifts to support and serve God, our church and church family, and the community with one voice and a spirit of unity as directed by Christ Jesus. We will support each member of our church in prayer including our pastor and leaders as they seek to guide us. (Romans 12:4-6; Romans 15:5-6; Hebrews 13:17)