The First Church of Christ in Mansfield
(Congregational) United Church of Christ

Our Covenant For Working and Worshipping

In a spirit of trust and love, promising to treat each other respectfully, we will:

- Listen without judgment
- Value one another's ideas and feelings
- Speak honestly and directly, and
- Foster growth and understanding among us, so that our actions and intentions embody God's vision.

Speaking and Listening –

- We will communicate directly to each other using the first person, listening with the same intensity as we speak.
- We will ask questions for clarification in order to confirm that we have understood correctly and will ask others to do the same.
- We will speak the truth, as we perceive it, in love, speaking from factual information.
- We will take responsibility for expressing our concerns.
- We will be aware of our own feelings, and be sensitive to the feelings of others.

The Truth –

- We will be active participants in the decision-making processes of our church.
- We will accept that the expression of opposing view is necessary as a step toward honest communication, striving for understanding.
- We will encourage the voice of dissent in our willingness to hear the spectrum of views.
- We will clearly define issues that are within the boundaries of congregational discussion.

In Love –

- We will affirm each person's ideas equally before offering them our own opinion.
- We will support each other with presence and participation in the life of our church.
- We will recognize the will of the congregation and support it within the bounds of our individual conscience.

As members of a Christian community, we promise,
with the help of God, to live this covenant
in order to do God's will in the life of our church.