

UUCJ COVENANT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We the members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Jackson Board of Trustees, adhering to our congregation's Bylaws and Behavior Covenant, do –

Covenant myself to the Board to:

- Be respectful of the Board and its responsibilities—being fully present, on time, and prepared for all meetings to the best of my ability;
- Be responsible for my assigned role—following through on my commitments and educating myself so I may make wise decisions;
- Be respectful and responsible for myself—taking care of and expressing my needs, practicing confession and forgiveness, and committing myself to my own personal and spiritual development.

Covenant among one another as Board Members to:

- Affirm the inherent worth and dignity of each Board Member—welcoming the diverse perspectives and styles each of us brings to the Board and appreciating each individual's contribution to the Board;
- Build personal relationships with Board Members based on justice, equity, and compassion to enrich ourselves and the Board process— maintaining perspective and a sense of humor, listening actively and deeply to each other to seek understanding and agreement and to discern content and underlying values expressed, speaking directly and authentically to each other, and openly acknowledging our feelings, even in the midst of difficult conversations;
- Work collaboratively to promote the mission and vision of the congregation—sharing knowledge and skills, setting aside personal agendas for the best interests of the congregation, assuming shared responsibility for all outcomes of Board work, and speaking with one voice about all Board decisions;
- Inspire each other to be our best selves while respecting each Board Member's expressed needs and limits—encouraging spiritual and personal growth, focusing on solutions rather than admiring problems, presuming good faith, and keeping confidences when requested.

Covenant as a Board to the Congregation to:

- Uphold the congregation's vision and mission ensuring that all actions undertaken reflect that purpose and promise;
- Stay connected to, and actively involved in, the life of the church community;
- Fulfill the Board's fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities— being efficient with our resources of time, talents, and treasure and exercising our individual and collective power to further the good of the congregation

- Support leadership at all levels respecting the work undertaken by each committee, taskforce, staff person and/or minister;
- Handle people and issues brought before the Board with respect, presuming good faith by all concerned; and
- Make Board processes transparent—ensuring transactions and decisions of the Board are communicated to members openly and intentionally and welcoming any and all visitors who wish to attend Board meetings and agree to abide by the UUCJ Behavior Covenant.

Adopted at the Board Retreat - July 14, 2013

Reaffirmed at the Board Retreat - June 7, 2014