

UUFHC Congregational Covenant

Adopted 4/23/23

At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County, we come together to share in life's meaning, grow in care and community, and open our hearts and minds to the sacred truth known by many names. Our covenant represents the promises we make to one another in the spirit of love and caring. We turn to these promises to guide our conduct within our community of faith through love and respectful support. We understand that when our behavior causes us to fall away from covenant, these promises will call us back into right relationship with the community. A covenant is not a creed but rather, guidelines for the inevitable conflicts that arise when we meet in community. We make these commitments to each other, not to a deity or higher authority. Most importantly, our covenant is a living document that helps us grow in faith and strength. We therefore promise to:

1. Honor the values and mission that bind us together;
2. Behave respectfully, honoring the personhood and experience of all;
3. Be aware of the space we occupy, leaning back to allow others to speak and leaning in when we have been silent;
4. Actively share responsibility for the future of the Fellowship, including stewardship;
5. Promote action and decision-making that are grounded in our UU Principles;
6. Foster genuine inclusion of all in the community;
7. Cultivate grace and patience, especially in difficult times;
8. Accept the inherent worth and dignity of every individual when acknowledging that harm has been done and healing [or reconciliation] is needed;
9. Remain mindful that we hold multiple truths gleaned from our lived experiences, especially those of us who have been historically marginalized; and
10. Commit to active listening, especially given voices of dissent.

Sources

1. UUA General Assembly Community Agreements
2. [Community Covenant: A Code of Conduct for Online Communities](#)
3. [Harriet's Apothecary Safer Space/Healing Agreements](#)
4. [Allied Media Projects, www.alliedmedia.org](#)

Members of the UUFHC Covenant Task Force

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