

Right Relations (adopted October 28, 2015; revised December 19, 2021)

We aspire to right relations, a state of mutual respect and communication, among all members of our Fellowship. To guide our growth and maintenance of this state, we adopt and practice the use of the following covenant. We encourage its use with all whom we encounter, and its acceptance is inherent in the status of Membership.

Covenant of Right Relations

We come to this fellowship in pursuit of a community of love, strength and support that is larger than ourselves. In this spirit, we covenant to

Provide a safe and inclusive space for the social and spiritual needs of our diverse members, honoring different perspectives, abilities and cultural identities.

Honor our obligation to volunteer as we are able and give of ourselves in support of each other and our fellowship.

Recognize, acknowledge, and actively appreciate our gifts to one another, accepting our imperfections and limitations.

Support and nurture each other in our community, taking responsibility to ask for what we need.

Listen and speak actively, respectfully, and with caring and open minds, sharing our individual truths as a means to reach better understanding.

Speak honestly and directly to those with whom we have issues, especially in times of conflict or disagreement.

Focus foremost on problem-solving rather than blame, seeking the best resolutions for all involved, including our Fellowship as a whole.

We join in this covenant to grow and sustain a healthy and loving fellowship.

Supporting Information

Respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person is a fundamental principle of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Because it is among the highest values of this congregation, we are committed to cultivating a safe, healthy, and welcoming atmosphere for worship and fellowship. As a community, we strive to uphold the Seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist faith with a deep awareness of how each principle intertwines with the others. This awareness is cultivated through respectful communication amongst individuals when engaging in congregational activities.

At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Clemson, our mission is to create an inclusive religious community sharing open minds, spiritual growth and compassionate action. Our vision is to be

A vibrantly diverse, welcoming and caring religious community that fosters spiritual and intellectual growth for all ages.

A beacon in the larger community for social justice, care for the earth, and compassionate service.

A growing congregation with resources to support high-quality personnel and facilities, and broad participation in shared ministries and programs.

To support our vision, this congregation has adopted this Covenant of Right Relations that describes how we should interact with one another in this community. We understand that in a covenanted community, each of us is empowered and has the responsibility to help each other maintain our covenant. The well-being, strength, and reputation of our church depend on “right relations” among members, friends, staff and clergy. Each comes into this community with loving intent and has the right to feel safe and secure here.

A Right Relations Committee may be appointed by the Board of Trustees to provide independent advice on relationship issues as needed.