

Community Spirit Church (UCC)

# Our Relational Covenant

We, of Community Spirit Church (United Church of Christ), make an intentional choice to embrace this covenant as an essential part of our faith journey. The following are ways in which we will work together to reach our highest potential as individuals and as a community.

**1. We covenant to work together to build the common good by:**

- \* sharing of our time, talent, and treasure in ways that reflect our earnest, heartfelt desire to contribute to the life of the church, both within and beyond its walls.

**2. We covenant to embrace and celebrate the individuality within our own congregation and the wider community by:**

- \* providing opportunities to share diverse experiences and ideas in a safe place.

**3. We covenant to practice openness, honesty, and respect in our communications by:**

- \* listening so as to understand;
- \* taking responsibility for our own thoughts, feelings, and needs (even as they may differ from others);
- \* taking responsibility for communicating in caring, respectful ways;
- \* recognizing the sacred nature of community, choosing to refrain from gossip or verbal speculation about the thoughts, feelings, and needs of others.

**4. We covenant to participate actively and responsibly in decision-making and the work of the congregation by:**

- \* seeking clarity rather than drawing conclusions;
- \* speaking directly with those with whom we disagree;
- \* seeking peaceful and constructive resolution of differences;
- \* supporting decisions made by the congregation, even when our own desires might be otherwise.

*Affirmed by the congregation on September 7, 2014.*

*This is a living document. It is our intention to revisit and refine this covenant.*