

## **Grace United Church Covenant Presented 01-26-2020**

**Mission: We strive to be a caring, Christian community that seeks, celebrates, and serves God with heart, soul and mind.**

*Because it is by grace you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. - Ephesians 2:8-9 (NJB)*

### **Covenant**

#### **Preamble**

We recognize that God, through Christ, leads our church. We believe that God continues to be revealed to us through the presence of His Son Jesus and His Holy Spirit. The statements of our denominations found below this covenant are reflections of our common understanding of God's interaction with humanity, but we do not claim them to be the only valid declarations.

Our goal will not be uniformity of belief, but shared purpose, that purpose being to declare God as a reality among people.

**In response to the grace of God, we covenant to be partners with God, each other, and with the world.**

### **Our partnership with God**

*We promise, insofar as we are able to:*

Regularly join with each other in the worship and celebration of God.

Strive to observe God's commandments, seek God's will and live out the example of Christ.

Learn about God through scripture, tradition, experience and reason.

Pray regularly, alone and together.

Seek God's continual presence in our individual and corporate lives.

Support God's work by giving of our time, talents and treasures.

Share the love of God with each other and the world around us, through word and deed.

## **Our Partnership with Each Other**

*We promise, insofar as we are able to:*

Help each other seek an always closer, communicative relationship with Christ, both personally and corporately.

Worship with each other and pray with and for each other, working together toward the glory of God.

Support, comfort, strengthen, encourage, forgive and rejoice with each other along life's road.

Respect and seek out one another's understanding and experience of God, so that we may more fully understand, experience and love God ourselves.

Speak truthfully, straightforwardly and lovingly to and about each other.

Address conflicts and issues early and with love.

Share in the congregational guidance of the church, respecting and working with its chosen leaders.

## **Our Partnership with the World:**

*We promise, insofar as we are able, to:*

Demonstrate to the world that all people reflect the image of God and are worthy of love and respect.

Honor and respect the understandings and experiences of God held by those outside of our congregation.

Help others learn more about God and Christ and their love for all.

Reach out to help others in times of hardship and heartache.

Share freely from all that we have been given, recognizing that we are simply stewards of God's gifts to us.

Partner with local, regional, national and international groups to share our gifts in ways that bring the greatest glory to God and comfort to God's children around the world.