Sample Aspirational Covenants compiled by CoSM January 2025 **

UU of Brunswick, ME

Adopted on November 6, 2012

We, the Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, believing in the value of beloved community, affirm that we will:

- Respect one another and support the work of the Congregation.
- Listen respectfully to one another.
- Celebrate and encourage diversity.
- Be present to one another and attend to one another's needs.
- Dream boldly; act with courage and integrity.
- Give generously of our time, energy, talent, and money.
- Encourage the spiritual journeys of all our generations.
- Bring conscience, compassion, and kindness into our interactions and our search for justice.
- Take responsibility for ourselves and our actions and for upholding the values and aspirations of our covenant.

UU Fellowship of Atlanta GA (2013)

We covenant to:

Commit time, talent and treasure to promote positive change in ourselves and in the world

Care for each other through deep listening and genuine kindness while assuming good will

Create a safe environment by respecting and trusting one another Encourage each other to express our authentic selves, supporting, inspiring, and challenging each other's quest for truth, meaning and spiritual growth Nurture a diverse and welcoming congregation.

Denton (TX) Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (DUUF)

We affirm our commitment to this community by covenanting

To listen with compassion,

To speak with respect and kindness,

To take responsibility for our own acts and feelings,

To support the church as we are able,

To engage in open, caring, and informed discussion of the decisions that affect us, To practice our UU principles at DUUF and in the world.

All Souls Church, Brattleboro VT

Shared by Rev. Deborah Mero, Interim Minister (2000-2002), All Souls Church Unitarian Universalist (UU) Brattleboro, VT

We build our church on a foundation of love and covenant with one another,

To freely explore our values and honor our diversity as a source of communal
strength,

To accept responsibility for our individual acts and promote justice and peace, To celebrate the joys of discovery, embracing the fullest measure of our humanity,

To communicate with kindness and support,
To serve with compassion and commitment,
To openly share our laughter and tears and,
To show reverence for the divine in all that it is.

Unitarian Universalist Ministers' Association, Northern New England Chapter

Adopted: March 25, 2009 at Crawford Notch, NH

We covenant to support one another in the work of ministry.

We want to be together as our best selves with our best behavior.

We want each other's help; radical honesty to see the truth more clearly, radical hospitality to open us to one another.

We want to be accountable to ourselves and to each other.

Because we want to be able to be vulnerable with each other, we will not exploit each other's vulnerabilities and we will be forgiving.

We want a lightness of heart and a depth of spirit.

We know it's complicated; we know there are differences among us in power, in practice, in belief; we know this covenant requires presence and kindness and mindfulness and courage.

We come together to share gifts: the depth of our wisdom and experience the clarity of our vision the strength of our hope.

UU Church of Ellsworth, ME

(accepted 10/2017)

We covenant as a loving community to:

- Be kind in word, tone, and deed;
- Communicate directly, and with honesty and thoughtfulness;
- Value a diversity of perspectives;
- Assume the best intentions in one another;
- Respectfully speak up when we are hurt and listen when we cause hurt; and
- When conflict arises, work constructively toward healing and forgiveness.

UU Church of Milford NH Covenant of Right Relations

In our interactions at UUCM, we promise to:

Actively reach out to each other.

Listen and hear.

Speak directly, with honesty, compassion and curiosity.

Assume we are all doing the best we can.

Keep an open mind.

Accept and appreciate each other.

Serve our community with generosity and good humor.

Be responsible and accountable for our choices.

Forgive each other and ourselves.

UU Church of Palo Alto, CA

We come together to create a community committed to a free, open, and loving search for spiritual meaning. Our community calls on each of us to extend compassion and kindness; to act from courage rather than fear; to treat one another with respect; and to honor one another's contributions. We commit to listen to one another, to acknowledge and address disagreements, and to express our concerns directly with those involved.

We embrace diversity for it is our differences that enrich us; we embrace democracy for it allows our voices to be heard; we embrace forgiveness for it opens us to hope; and we embrace this life for it is what we have together.

We accept responsibility for making our community everything we want it to be.

UU Church of Peoria, IL

As a community of love and hope, we covenant together:

To welcome with open minds and hearts all who gather here - newcomers, members, and friends.

To nurture one another with caring words, kind actions, and compassionate concern.

To share ideas freely, listen willingly, disagree respectfully, and forgive easily. To inspire one another, youngest to eldest, to thrive in body, mind, and spirit. To work cooperatively toward our goals and openly appreciate each other's unique gifts.

To enrich our congregational life by participating, leading, pledging, and giving. To celebrate life and savor its diversity, beauty, and creativity.

UU Church of Belfast, ME 2023

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Belfast Maine is a spiritual community that believes in the sacred practice of honoring an agreed upon set of promises to guide our individual behavior and all that we do together.

To that end, we covenant to:

- Practice love, respect, and compassion for everyone;
- Listen open-heartedly;
- Address conflict directly, with kindness and curiosity;
- Talk with, rather than about, one another;
- Have faith in the goodness of others, acknowledging our own mistakes and practicing forgiveness;
- Take responsibility for our feelings and actions.

UU Fellowship of Centre County, State College PA

We, the members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Centre County, covenant to come together in a spirit of trust and respect; to love, listen, cry and laugh, shaping a mutually supportive community that nurtures our minds and spirits and celebrates the worth and dignity of us all. We commit ourselves to do this with caring, compassion, and understanding through open, honest communications.

** Sources: *Unlocking the Power of Covenant* (2019); UUA website resources; sharing from congregational websites and personal contacts