

# Grace United Church

Gananoque, Ontario

(Approved January 22, 2019)

## **Behavioural Covenant of Grace United Church**

We, the members of the Grace United Church Community of Faith, as disciples of Christ, covenant to put into practice the following behavioural principles, which are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ:

We will recognize and celebrate the contribution of each member of our church community.

We, as an inclusive community of faith, welcome and support all individuals with love and dignity regardless of gender identity, orientation, race, physical ability, age, or social economic status.

We pledge to respectfully listen to one another, always keeping in mind that the Holy Spirit works through each and any of us.

We will honour our commitments in carrying out the life and work of our church.

We will take ownership of our individual feelings and refrain from being critical or blaming others.

We will seek to reach consensus as much as possible on significant congregational decisions, but where it is not possible, we will seek to be loyal to the decision of the majority.

As an inclusive church community, we shall strive to create a safe atmosphere for openly expressing our own opinions, questions and feelings.

We will promote open, respectful communication in all aspects of the work of our church community.

In acknowledging that conflict is natural and inevitable, we will strive to deal with differences in the most direct way possible (*as guided by Matthew 18:15-17*)

In dealing with matters of concern, which are unresolved, we covenant to work through the leadership of the church community in seeking an appropriate solution.