

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, UCC, LONGMEADOW, MA  
BEHAVIORAL COVENANT

*“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.  
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” (John 13:34 NRSV)*

We covenant to use the teachings of Christ as our model in our relationships with one another, aspiring to emulate Him in order to create a respectful, compassionate and prayerful church community.

With the help of God, we affirm our commitment to the following behaviors:

- To treat all people as we wish to be treated ourselves.
- To honor the differences of opinions, and encourage the thoughtful expression of concerns and questions, as we celebrate the diversity of our spiritual family.
- To create a safe environment by upholding the dignity of each person.
- To communicate with others in a direct, honest, timely and sensitive manner even though we may have different understandings and views.
- To listen respectfully with the goal of deep understanding.
- To seek God’s guidance, grace and direction through self-reflection and prayer.
- To create a community of reconciliation through forgiveness of others and ourselves.
- To honor this covenant, we are accountable to God, each other, and ourselves.

(Approved by Church Council and congregation members on November 2, 2014  
and adopted as Appendix 2 of the By-laws on May 22, 2016)