

Birmingham Unitarian Church

Congregational Covenant

PREAMBLE

We the members and friends of the Birmingham Unitarian Church, commit to live our lives and shape our church in ways that promote our shared beliefs. Aligning ourselves with the Principles and Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations we do hereby promise to:

I. Live Our Faith

- Accept, encourage and celebrate our differences.
- Listen with openness, patience and empathy.
- Use direct thoughtful communication.
- Speak the truth in love and avoid gossip.
- Create an environment that is inclusive and welcoming.
- Express appreciation of each person's unique contribution.
- Seek and respect different points of view.
- Foster intellectual and spiritual development.

II. Be Responsible Stewards of Our Beloved Community

- Contribute to the well-being of the Greater Detroit community.
- Strengthen our connection to the Heartland District, Unitarian Universalist Association, and affiliated organizations.
- Participate in the life and activities of the congregation.
- Embrace the opportunity to educate and inspire our young people.
- Financially support our mission as a religious community.
- Promote and celebrate the unique relationship that inspires us to live in greater harmony with nature.

III. Honor The Democratic Process.

- Participate in the governance of the congregation.
- Be open to change, while respecting the legacy of our faith's traditions.
- Encourage and develop leaders who foster trust, respect and open honest communication with the congregation.
- Honor with gratitude and respect the ways we come together to serve our congregation.

Congregational Pledge

We willingly accept responsibility for our own behavior and honor our obligations to each other. We freely enter into this covenant and agree with its spirit. We promise to help each other uphold this covenant. This covenant is a living document.