

## A COVENANT OF PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

*We, the members of the Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, covenant to affirm and promote:*

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Together we strive to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. Members of this congregation enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support. As we put our principles into action – individually and in each expression of the church – we strive to:

- Welcome those with different abilities and practice open and affirming radical hospitality toward all;
- Respect the right of each person to speak and taking personal responsibility to listen;
- Encourage each member in their unique joys and concerns, addressing their expressed needs with compassion and support;
- Develop spiritual depth and greater understanding promoting continuing education throughout the whole congregation;
- Serve as an example in words and actions for our children and youth, including their contributions in the life of the congregation, mindful of physical and emotional abilities and safety;
- Use positions of power constructively and with intention, mindful of our potential, unconsciously, to oppress others, and to refrain from all abuse or exploitation.
- Practice right relationships with others, which excludes all actions and speech that is abusive or unwanted, including physical contact, verbal harassment, or other behaviors that violate the inherent dignity of the other.
- Think critically about the questions and issues brought to our attention, seeking consensus when possible, and collective action when necessary to advance our principles;
- Honor the appropriate channels to pursue ideas, projects and concerns;
- Work toward peace, justice and sustainability in our congregation, community, region and world;
- Commit to reconciliation and forgiveness when the covenant is broken.