

TEAM COVENANT

The stated mission/vision of Navarre United Methodist church is: To be a light to the Emerald Coast and beyond by helping people worship God, grow in Christ and serve others.

Toward that end it is expected that employees will conduct themselves in a manner that embraces that vision. All of us, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are expected to constantly grow in our relationship with Christ and in our obedience to his commands.

Our United Methodist heritage offers us numerous resources to guide us in these endeavors.

Wesley's General Rules

In the mid 1700s, John Wesley set out some general rules for the societies of people who were responding the message of the gospel. These persons had, "a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." Wesley believed that a person who truly desired this would demonstrate that desire by the way they lived. He devised three simple rules to guide persons in their daily lives as they sought to be faithful to God. Here they are adapted for our context:

1. Avoid things which are inconsistent with the life of faith, separate us from God, and bring harm to others, such as:

- Self-destructive behavior (addictive behavior, workaholism, poor self-care)
- Moral compromise (sexual misconduct, greed, dishonesty)
- Self-centeredness and pride
- Malice (harboring resentment, acting in anger, backbiting)
- Wasting of resources (the church's, your personal resources of time, talent, finance)
- Gossiping – We will handle conflict in a professional and biblical manner (Matthew 18:15-17)

2. Do good of every possible sort and practice our faith, such as:

- Live a life of love
- Share our faith inside and outside of Navarre United Methodist Church
- Care for our families
- Build others up
- Be engaged with those in need, both inside the church and out

3. Pursue growth in our spiritual lives, such as:

- Attend worship each weekend, except when sick or out of town
- Participate in a small group or Sunday school class for accountability and spiritual growth
- Serve God with our time and talents outside of our ministry area
- Give in proportion to our income, with the tithe being the goal
- Spend time in prayer and personal study of the Scriptures

It is our aim as a ministry team to live out the principles of Christ, John Wesley and United Methodism in our interactions between staff members and congregational members.

Denominational Standards of Practice

All staff members are encouraged to strive, with God's help, toward the highest standards of self-discipline and both personal and social holiness. For our ordained clergy, the denomination has specified certain standards of faith and practice. At Navarre United Methodist Church, since clergy and lay staff share leadership somewhat fluidly, our church also calls upon lay staff members to strive toward these same personal standards. Commitment to uphold these standards is a position requirement for all employees. Our denominational standards include the following:

For the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness to the Christian gospel, and in consideration of the influence of an ordained minister on the lives of other persons both within and outside the Church, the Church expects those who seek ordination to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life. To this end, they agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, integrity in all personal relations, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and in the knowledge and love of God. (¶304 and 310, The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2012)

I have read this covenant and will strive to live in accordance with it.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(print name)

Signature: _____