

Church Leadership Relationship Agreement

We will hold ourselves accountable to God and to each other to:

- Uphold the highest virtue of love for God and love for each other, even when we do not like each other's choices or points of view (1 John 4:19; Mark 12:30, 31; Philippians 2:3-5).
- Honor and follow the Peacemaker's Pledge (see other document→).
- Go to Jesus in prayer as our confidante before we go to the other person to deal with the conflict (*Matthew 7:1-5; 18:15; Colossians 3:15-17*).
- Expect the best about each other's motives and intentions (Genesis 50:20; Romans 12:10).
- Go directly to each other, and do not gossip (no improper triangulation. Prov. 16:28; 26:20; Matt. 18:15; 2 Cor. 12:20).
- Listen and hear each other accurately even when we do not agree with what is being said. Seek to understand, then to be understood (2 Cor. 6:6; Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:12; James 1:19).
- Go face-to-face—refrain from using phones or email to handle conflict (*Matt. 18:15ff*).
- Speak the truth in love and seek to understand and empathize rather than blame or accuse (*Genesis 3:7-13; Galatians 6:1-5; Ephesians 4:15; 29-31*).
- Not let the sun go down on our anger, but seek to resolve issues quickly (Eph. 4:26, 27).
- Choose to forgive and put the issue to rest (*Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13*).
- Affirm and respect others on the team (I Corinthians 12:12-27).
- Build and guard Unity of the church (*Jn. 13:34, 35; 17:20-23; Rom. 12:18; 15:5, 6; Eph. 4:3-6; Col. 3:14*).

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons (daughters) of God." Matthew 5:9