

GUIDELINES FOR HEALTHY RELATIONS
Adopted May 14, 2013 by the UUFB Board of Directors

Each Sunday morning we repeat these words that define our relationship with one another.

*Love is the spirit of this church and service is its prayer.
This is our covenant with one another and the Spirit of Life:
to live together in peace,
to seek truth in freedom and
to help one another.*

The first three principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association also call us 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*

We understand the importance of embodying this spirit of love, respect, justice and acceptance in our congregational life. We, the UUFB Board of Directors, have adopted the following guidelines to clarify expectations for how we relate to one another and to strengthen our community.

- Welcome, and respect everyone in our church community.
- Communicate openly, directly, truthfully and compassionately with each other and encourage others to do the same.
- Listen with an open mind, and a loving heart.
- Approach our differences with empathy and compassion
- Maintain and teach appropriate boundaries with our children, youth and adults
- Acknowledge our responsibility for carrying out the church's shared ministry in cooperation with professional clergy.

It is the responsibility of members and friends to handle difficulties by speaking directly with those involved. If that is not possible, the Committee on Ministry or other persons or groups designated by the Board of Directors should be contacted. Further steps may be outlined by policies of the Board.