

UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF GERMANTOWN

COVENANT OF RIGHT RELATIONS

Approved by the Board of Trustees March 22, 2016

Preamble.

USG is resolved to be a diverse, welcoming and caring community. It is hoped that a Covenant of Right Relations will help our members deepen our bonds with one another when things are going smoothly and guide us in times of conflict.

Covenant

In this spirit, we, the members of the USG Congregation, covenant to:

1. Welcome and engage members and visitors alike.
2. Express gratitude for the efforts of others, particularly those who volunteer.
3. Ask for help when needed and give help as able;
4. Listen, with an open heart, to fully appreciate another's point of view;
5. Approach disagreements and conflicts constructively, communicating with others in a direct, caring and responsible manner;
6. Acknowledge our own mistakes and shortcomings and ask for forgiveness, and be willing to forgive mistakes and shortcomings of others.
7. Speak respectfully and compassionately of those present and not present;
8. Accept responsibility in conflict through personal reflection, actively listening to understand others' perspectives, experiences, and feelings, suspending judgment, finding common ground, and seeking creative solutions;
9. Value confidentiality
10. Be judicious as to both wording and volume in our electronic/cyber communications.