

HEDGE 2009-2010

Covenant

Covenant - An agreement, usually formal, between two or more persons to do or not do something specified. Also a solemn agreement between the members of a church to act together in harmony with the precepts of the gospel. (Dictionary.com Unabridged v.1.1)

I promise that I will, to the very best of my abilities, fulfill the responsibilities to which I have agreed. I will endeavor to serve the families of HEDGE in a way that will bring glory to God knowing that HEDGE is a ministry. I understand that as a group of believers we are to “*do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than ourselves. Letting each of us look not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others.*” (Philippians 2:3)

I promise to work to resolve any conflict in which I am a participant and/or witness with humility, love for my brother and/or sister in Christ, and forthrightness.

I promise to keep my commitments unless catastrophic circumstances prevent me from doing so. If I must leave HEDGE I will fulfill my commitments until such time as I find a replacement.

“God expects us to keep our word, even if we made an unwise commitment, things did not turn out as we expected, or it will be difficult to fulfill a commitment (Ps. 15:4; Josh.9:1-19; Eccles. 5:1-7). If you have made an impulsive commitment or if unforeseen circumstances make it difficult to keep your word, you may appeal to the other person for mercy and ask (not demand) to be released from your obligation (Prov. 6:1-5; cf. Matt. 18:22-33). In some cases, you may also be freed from your commitment if the other party fails in a substantial way to keep his or her word (e.g., Matt. 19:9; 1 Cor. 7:15). If you cannot be released in a biblical way, ask God to help you keep your word and learn from your mistake.” (The Peacemaker by Ken Sande, pg. 123)

I promise to respect the authority of the HEDGE Administration, the ministers of Hillside United Methodist church, and above all, God. If I have a question about a decision that has been made I know that I am to take the question to the leadership team. I know I will be heard, but I cannot always know everything that must be considered when making a decision and will ultimately accept the decisions made without grumbling. I also promise not to abuse any authority and power over decision making that I have been given but will be careful to consider all persons that will be affected by my decisions and will do what is best for the group as a whole and not what is best for any one individual to the detriment of others, with the Bible as my ultimate standard.

“All legitimate authority has been established by God, primarily for the purpose of maintaining peace and order (Rom. 13:1-7). He has given those in authority strict commands not to take advantage of their positions, but rather to diligently serve and look out for the well-being of those whom they are called to lead (Mark 10:42-45; cf. Eph. 5:25-33; 6:4,9; 1 Peter 3:7; 5:1-3). When leaders misuse their authority and use it for their own ends, God himself will eventually hold them accountable for that sin (Deut. 24:15; Job 31:13-14; Jer. 22:13; Mal. 3:5; Col. 4:1; James 5:4).” (The Peacemaker by Ken Sande, pg. 123)

Signed _____

Date _____