

MidAmerica Board Covenant

As we work together to govern boldly, empowering the MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we, the Board of the MidAmerica Region promise ourselves and each other . . .

- To keep spirituality present within us as individuals and as a community, to remember always that we are doing religious work, and to remember that our Unitarian Universalist message can be salvific.
- To show up for meetings prepared, actively participate, and learn together and from each other.
- To communicate within agreed-upon response times using agreed-upon communication methods.
- To hold a safe space when we gather and work together: assuming good intentions, being respectful, listening deeply, including all voices and honoring them. To that end, we encourage use of wisdom from our youth:
 - “Ouch Oops” – recognize that our intentions may be different from our impact;
 - “No Spontaneous Combustion” -- speak up at the beginning of discomfort, and not wait until anger or frustration overwhelms us.
 - “One Diva/One Mic” -- speak one at a time.
- To hear every voice at the table, voice disagreements, seek to understand and then to be understood. Our shared intention is not always to reach unanimity, but rather to leave the meeting with a commitment that each participant can affirm decisions reached, so the Board will speak with one voice to the public.
- To locate authority in the Board, not in the individual board member.
- To honor and respect our commitments to Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression, and MultiCulturalism. To honor and respect our commitments to Youth and other constituencies as we work together.
- To have fun and laughter in our shared experience, and to celebrate.
- To embody the spirit of generosity and the experience of abundance in our work together.
- To be in active and intentional relationship with other groups, part of a larger web of interdependence.

We will keep this covenant present before us, and when we are having trouble keeping this promise, we will lovingly remind one another of our covenant.

Drafted August 25, 2013, and adopted October 3, 2013