

COVENANT CONCEPTS AND WORDING FOR MARCH/APRIL WORKSHOP

RESULTS OF FOCUS GROUP

NOTE: Each line includes a Concept, and sample language to represent that concept. The wordings are here as examples, not as specific proposals for our PUUC Covenant.

Unitarian Universalism is a covenantal faith. As part of the Peterborough Unitarian Universalist congregation, we accept this covenant as an agreement, a promise, that represents shared values and aspirations, and a commitment to love as our guiding principle.

With this in mind, we covenant to:

- Welcome, appreciate and include a diversity of people and ideas in our congregation **CONCEPT: inclusion**
- Show reverence for the sacred and support one another's spiritual growth **CONCEPT: spirituality**
- Interact with all beings with kindness and compassion **CONCEPT: kindness**
- Listen respectfully and communicate honestly and directly **CONCEPT: communication**
- Assume the best of intentions in each other **CONCEPT: positive intentions**
- Make decisions with attention to justice and equity **CONCEPT: justice and equity**
- Nurture our community through generosity, service, and support for one another and the larger world **CONCEPT: generosity**
- Respect and value our interdependence with the natural world **CONCEPT: interdependence**
- Seek feedback and accept responsibility for our actions **CONCEPT: responsibility/accountability**

Recognizing that these are aspirations and that, as humans, we will make mistakes, we also commit to working to heal harm and to practice forgiveness.

POSSIBLE WORDING OF PUUC COVENANT

Shared by Chip Bull

At UU Peterborough we promise to:

- Listen with open hearts and minds
- Speak with kindness and honesty
- Embrace diversity and inclusion
- Support each other in times of need
- Contribute to our shared spiritual growth
- Serve our wider community with compassion
- Practice forgiveness and gratitude
- Strive for justice and equality
- Nurture our connection to nature and the sacred
- Accept that we individually are doing the best we can

This covenant reflects our commitment to fostering a loving, supportive, and inclusive community.