

**Subject: Board Member Covenant**

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BOARD MEMBER VALUES, ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, PHILOSOPHY

BOARD MEMBER COVENANT

I commit my love and support to \_\_\_\_\_, a United Church of Religious Science ministry. I express the living Christ Consciousness in a changing world and embrace the vision of this spiritual community being a model for the 21<sup>st</sup> century church.

I dedicate my life to be of maximum service to God and to those around me; to live in a manner that sets the highest example for others to follow; and to remain responsive to God's Guidance.

I manifest my commitment through active involvement in the life of \_\_\_\_\_, and seek to demonstrate a spiritually principled lifestyle.

- I regularly attend \_\_\_\_\_
- I attend a minimum of 40 Sunday celebrations per year
- I warmly greet all who enter our doors
- I consistently and fully tithe my time, talent and treasure
- I am a magnet who attracts new members to our congregation
- I regularly acknowledge the loving service of staff and volunteers
- I insure continuous improvement and excellence by being direct with my communication and keeping my agreements
- I actively engage in my spiritual growth
- I enthusiastically participate in voluntary service

## BOARD PHILOSOPHY

1. We are partners in visioning the future of

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2. We are the elected/appointed brains and hearts in the church –representing the needs of people locally and globally.

3. We continually ask: what more can we do to meet the needs of human beings.

4. We continually ask: What more do we do to make this church relevant to this community – to the people we are serving.

5. We give leadership to the fundraising projects

6. We have financial integrity.

7. We have denominational integrity.

8. We are in consensus. We seek a unanimous commitment from the board before proceeding in any matter. We always give approval to fundraising. When we/I approve it - I will do all I can to personally bring this about. When we vote yes we have clarity, consensus and commitment.

## BOARD VALUE STATEMENT

1. We agree to put God as Love first, acknowledging God is the head of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We agree to support \_\_\_\_\_'s mission, policies and decisions.
3. We agree to practice direct communication (gossip free).
  - I will go to the person with whom I have an issue without side talking.
  - I will encourage other board and staff members and congregants to go to the person directly.
  - I will never propose or conduct meetings without the knowledge of every board member.
  - I will use fair communication techniques (say what I see, what I feel, no blaming)
  - I will use active listening.
  - I will accept responsibility for my feelings and my experience
  - I will process with the other person on other than work time.
  - If there is no resolution with the person, I will go to my minister, president, practitioner if necessary.
4. We agree to be environmentally conscious through good stewardship of \_\_\_\_\_ resources, i.e. money, time, talent and \_\_\_\_\_'s facility.
  - I will hold in consciousness what I can do myself to make a positive difference.
  - I will have an awareness of how to best manage volunteers and resources.
5. We agree to take care of ourselves mentally, physically, emotionally, spiritually and maintain healthy boundaries.
  - I will honor my physical body by eating, resting, exercising.
  - I will take my earned vacations and mini-vacations; stop and smell the flowers, meditate, breathe.
  - I will be careful to balance my time and if I have over-committed, I will re-negotiate commitments.
  - I will practice saying "no" without feeling guilty.
  - I will learn to know when my boundaries have been crossed and adjust as needed.
  - I will remember that I am always on a God job and to refocus on God in times of stress.
  - I will nurture a balanced life.
  - I will honor differences in the work styles of my colleagues.
  - I will learn to prioritize and follow through with priorities.
6. We agree to be individually and collectively responsible for all our commitments and to renegotiate or make amends if agreements are broken. This means any time I commit or give my word to: outside vendors, volunteers, staff, congregation, or anyone else I interact with while performing my duties.

7. We agree to honor, acknowledge and celebrate each other. (Tell the truth with love, practice active listening.)

#### WHAT IS A BOARD MEMBER?

- Someone who demonstrates leadership in the church
- Tithes 10% to \_\_\_\_\_
- Contributes a balance of time, talent and treasure
- Sets a high example for others to follow
- Is actively engaged in spiritual growth
- Unconditionally supportive of the minister
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Member for a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_

#### HOW LONG DOES A BOARD MEMBER SERVE?

- Service is for \_\_\_ terms of \_\_\_\_\_ years

#### WHAT DOES THE BOARD LOOK FOR IN POTENTIAL NEW BOARD MEMBERS?

- Leaders in our spiritual community
- Tithers of time, dollars and talent
- Membership for a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_
- Demonstrates a spiritually principled lifestyle, psychological health, physical well being and a consciousness of prosperity

#### WHAT IS THE SELECTION PROCESS?

Potential board members are nominated in 3 ways:

1. Nominating committee suggests names
  2. Any person interested can apply and is encouraged to do so
  3. From the floor at the annual congregational meeting
- Members that fit the criteria may fill out an application and submit it in the (winter, spring, summer, fall) of each year.
  - Applicants may be interviewed
  - Board/nominating committee makes final selections for proposed slate
  - Congregation votes at the annual meeting in \_\_\_\_\_
  - New board members are installed in \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE APPLICATION FORM FOR \_\_\_\_\_ BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Day: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Eve: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please attach a brief resume of your education and experiences)

How long have you been a member of \_\_\_\_\_?

What classes, workshops, retreats, offered by \_\_\_\_\_ have you attended?

Do you tithe to \_\_\_\_\_?

What service ministry teams have you served on or are currently serving on?

Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

What do you feel you can contribute to the success of this Board as it serves this spiritual community?

Thank you so much for your interest and caring. Selections for the Board position will be made by a nominating committee based on this application, your brief resume, and a personal interview. Please mail your resume and this completed form in the enclosed envelope to:

\_\_\_\_\_. You may also contact \_\_\_\_\_ via phone at ( )

\_\_\_\_\_ or fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ or e-mail

\_\_\_\_\_.