

Board Covenant

We, the members of the First Unitarian Society of Ithaca's Board of Trustees, covenant with each other to foster beloved community as we engage in the work of the board.

As a member of the beloved community, I will treat others with respect.

- I will use "I" statements and speak for myself.
- I will be respectful in words, tone, and body language.
- I will avoid interrupting others and respect the order of persons speaking.
- I will actively listen in order to better understand.
- I will share "air time" and take care how often and how long I speak.
- I will ask questions and check out my own assumptions.
- I will give my full attention to my fellow Board members and the work of the Board during meetings.
- I will assume the best possible motive of others.
- I will be open to feedback from others.
- I will encourage all congregants to actively participate in the life of the Society, and I will lead by example.
- I will hold myself and the group accountable for upholding the covenant.

As a member of the Board, I will abide by Board policies.

- I will place the mission of the congregation first.
- I will join my fellow Board members in creating a supportive climate that welcomes new ideas and supports creativity.
- I will respect confidentiality.
- I will be mindful that Board members may have access to sensitive information that may require careful communication to others.
- I will raise disagreements and voice my concerns when needed within the Board.
- I will honor the Board speaking as one voice after decisions are made.
- I will be a positive public voice.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, I will fulfill my responsibilities.

- I will commit to a shared journey that seeks deeper meaning in our work.
- I will follow through with my commitments, while giving space for others to do the same.
- I will be on time and prepared for meetings and respect the value of being present.
- I will support the chairperson in following the designated agenda, including times allocated for items.
- I will respect our time and support the chair in starting and ending our meetings at the agreed upon times.
- I will support my fellow Board members.
- I will take the work of the Board seriously.
- I will help the Board, Minister, Staff, and Congregation support and promote the mission of the Society.
- I will remember to strive toward comradery, mutual support and fun engagement.

Wendy J. At
Lynne Starn
Diana Ther

Angela Chung
M.H.
Suzanne Gable
Kim Wilkinson

Andrew S. Tran