

WASHINGTON COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
Elder Agreements and Understandings
2010

“Let us love one another, for love is of God.”- 1 John 4:7

We submit to God’s rule in our congregation and to the authority of God’s Word along with the following commitments:

- A. Praying for each other as we identify, affirm and use our spiritual gifts to properly fulfill the call of the Office of Elder to the glory of God.
- B. Mutually honoring and submitting to each other as leaders, exhorting and encouraging one another in our pastoral and elder relationships and responsibilities.
- C. Believing the best of one another’s motivation, acknowledging our varied backgrounds, experiences and assumptions, listening carefully, and questioning appropriately and truthfully in love for mutual understanding, especially when disagreeing on issues or actions.
- D. Maintaining appropriate confidentiality boundaries, trusting each other with our confidences. Any discussion of a sensitive nature that is to be held in strict confidence will be verbally “flagged” during the meeting. General topics discussed are free to be shared with congregants.
- E. Guarding each other’s ministry role and integrity, agreeing to acknowledge and transform conflict, personally dialoging with those with whom we have disagreement and encouraging others to do the same.
- F. Holding each other accountable in pursuing healing and reconciliation.
- G. Prioritizing participation at the Elders’ and leadership meetings, worship services and other congregational events.
- H. Communicating clearly and consistently with each other, the Deacons, the Commissions and the congregation.
- I. Seeking consensus in decision-making, while acknowledging diversity, through careful and deliberate discussion, wise counsel and prayer, and respectfully supporting group decisions.

We acknowledge our spiritual guardianship as elders resides in the corporate expression of the elders under the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, not in us personally nor in our individual positions as elders.

Revised and agreed upon Spring 2009
Discussed and agreed upon 2/3/10