

St. Paul Lutheran Church Behavioral Covenant

As people of St. Paul Lutheran Church we believe that all people are children of God, created in God's image as sisters and brothers of Jesus. We desire to live Christ-like lives in community with one another and value this community as a safe place. We are called to engage with one another in life-giving, supportive ways. We value civility, respect for all people, and the infinite diversity of life stories and ideas they embody.

In order to live that which we value, we agree, in all of our communications, to:

- See the child of God in each person;
- Work together for the common good;
- Openly and honestly share our views with each other, especially when we disagree;
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that each person has the opportunity to speak;
- Listen to one another without interruption or judgment;
- Honor the decision that may arise out of a difficult decision-making process;
- Talk directly with a person with whom we have a conflict;
- Assume they have the best of intentions;
- Respect confidentiality; and
- Actively practice forgiveness.

Adopted, as presented, by the St. Paul Lutheran Church Council on September 18, 2012.