

**Cornerstone United Methodist Church**  
**"Covenant of Confidentiality"**

The following covenant was duly adopted by unanimous vote of the Committee on Staff Parish Relations at a duly-called meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the Year of Our Lord 2006.

- The church exists, by God's grace, as a community of mutual trust;
- and Grave damage can be done to persons through the divulging of confidences given in trust to those church officials or committees charged with responsibilities. that may involve dealings with issues of the most personal type; and
- The church as a community of trust can be damaged when confidences are violated; and
- The effectiveness of church officials and committees, themselves, is greatly diminished when they do not keep faith with mutual understandings of confidentiality; and
- Our Scriptures expressly forbid the spreading of gossip and slander and the betrayal of confidences; and
- There are also legal implications at stake with regards to the handling of privileged and confidential information by church officials and committees;
- In consideration of the above premises, the

\_\_\_\_\_ Committee of Cornerstone United Methodist Church hereby agrees, individually and severally, to respect the right of privacy of the pastor(s), church employee(s), or church member(s) for whom the Committee has responsibility, and strictly maintain the confidentiality of all information shared of a personal, sensitive nature; whether presented verbally or in writing in the course of these meetings;

- The \_\_\_\_\_ Committee of Cornerstone United Methodist Church further agrees that no disclosure of any such confidential information shall be made except by the designated spokesperson of the Committee in accordance with, and by the authority of, a written vote of consent by the majority of the members of the Committee on Staff Parish Relations.

**Signatures of Committee Members**

Pastor Signature (if a member of the committee): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Members: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairperson

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