

Servant Leader Covenant

Montrose Zion United Methodist Church where we strive **to make and mature disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world**

Our servant leaders, along with our staff, fulfill the biblical roles of elders and deacons, shepherds and teachers. As leaders, we set the tone and pace for the entire congregation. We model the Christian faith, the Christian life, and the attitude and heart of a Christian for our congregation. We shape the heart, character and life of this Christian community. For this reason, it is vital that we walk the Christian walk. Spiritually healthy leaders will produce a spiritually healthy church.

With this in mind, the following covenant was developed to guide our life together as leaders. We use these standards to hold ourselves accountable to pursuing the Christian life. And in so doing, we recognize that it is God's grace which calls forth our faithful response, and it is God's grace which brings such transformation in our lives. Our leaders should be members of MZUMC or actively pursuing membership in our community.

I. The Goal of the Christian Life: Sanctification

Jesus summarized the goal of the Christian life with two commandments: love the Lord our God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength; and love your neighbor as yourselves. John Wesley spoke of this goal as *sanctification*, *Christian perfection*, or *holiness*. In our Methodist tradition, three **General Rules** were designed to help Christians pursue this goal. As leaders we pursue these principles as we grow in faith and service together.

A. Do all kinds of good.....all the time, such as:

1. Live a life of love
2. Share our faith inside and outside of MZUMC
3. Care for our families
4. Build others up
5. Be engaged with those in need, both inside the church and out
6. Make every effort to participate in Servant Leader training and development

B. Pursue growth in our spiritual lives, such as:

1. Participate in worship together regularly
2. Engage in close Christian friendships for spiritual growth and intentional faith development
3. Serve God with our time and talents
4. Give in proportion to our income, always being a generous giver
5. Spend time in prayer and the personal study of scripture

C. Avoid those things which are inconsistent with the life of faith, separate us from God, and bring harm to others and ourselves, such as:

1. Self-destructive behavior
2. Moral compromise
3. Self-centeredness and pride
4. Malice (harboring resentment, acting in anger, backbiting)
5. Wasting of resources (the church's, or personal resources of time, talent, finance)

II. The Heart and Attitude of a Leader at MZUMC

A. What is the heart and attitude of a MZ leader?

1. Committed to Christ
2. Positive
3. Joyful
4. Humble (Servant Leadership)
5. Devoted to the purpose and vision of MZUMC

B. How will Montrose Zion leaders live in community with one another?

1. Demonstrating respect and grace
2. Accepting differences
3. Maintaining appropriate confidentiality
4. Publicly supporting other servant leaders, pastors and staff members
5. Going directly to the individual whenever a problem arises

I have read the above and am committed to living my life and pursuing ministry in a way that is consistent with these expectations, and desire to do so at Montrose Zion United Methodist Church.

Name

Date

** Biblical references to support Sections IA, IB, and IC available upon request and on-line.