

**Behavioral Covenant of Leadership and Conduct
By the Church Council
of Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

In order for the Church Council to lead well this congregation
In its mission and ministry, we make these promises:

Our Promise to God

We promise to pray, alone and together, to thank God, Praise God and to ask for God's help in our lives and in our work for our Church, and we will seek to listen and discern God's response.

Our Promise to Each Other on the Church Council

We promise to respect, care and pray for each other.

We promise to regard our time in the Church Council as an opportunity to make an important gift to our Church.

We promise to listen with an open, nonjudgmental mind to the words and ideas of the others in our Church and on the Church Council.

We promise to discuss, debate, dialogue, agree and disagree openly in Church Council meetings, expressing ourselves, as clearly and honestly as possibly, so that we are certain that the Council understands our point of view.

We promise to support the final decision of the Church Council, whether it reflects our view or not.

We promise to worship together often in Jesus' name.

Our promise to our "Our Savior's Lutheran Church" family.

We promise to demonstrate our leadership and commitment to our Church by our example.

We promise to support our Church pastors and staff so that their efforts can be most productive.

We promise to try to discover what is best for our Church as a whole, in pursuit of our congregation's mission and vision, not what may be best for us or for some small group in the Church.

We promise to give caring attention to the life of this congregation seeing that the duties and responsibilities, as outlined in the constitution of this church, are fulfilled.

We promise to encourage our members to share their thoughts, opinions, and ideas about the life and ministry of the congregation.

We promise to support the congregation's direct form of government that allows members to share their opinions directly with the pastors, Church Council, standing committees, and at congregational meetings.

We promise to practice the following disciplines in response to information and opinions so that these are processed effectively, respectfully and healthfully:

1. When members of the congregation express an opinion to a member of the Council, the Councilperson shall ask, saying to this effect, "What would you like me to do with this information?"
2. If the member desires to have the information transmitted to the Council, the member shall be invited to bring the information/opinion to the next Council meeting. The time and date shall be given.
3. If the member does not wish to appear in person, the Council member shall ask the member for permission to use their name in reporting. If permission is not given, the Council member shall say to this effect, "I am sorry but I will not be able to report this to the Council since we do not deal with anonymous letters, opinions, or comments."
4. If permission is given, the Council member shall report the information/opinion to the Council and use the member's name.
5. At his/her discretion, a Council member may ask that the member refer this issue to another Council member for presentation.
6. Each issue shall be placed on the agenda and written in the minutes along with the action taken by the Council. Action may include: "Received as information," "Pastor and/or President to visit member and report at the next meeting," etc.
7. Opinions may be shared in writing with the Council and shall be handled in the above-mentioned manner if the letter or statement is signed.

Reviewed and Affirmed by the Church Council