

# **Brevard First UMC Relational Covenant**

## **Presented November 9, 2008**

**Based on Three Simple Rules: Do no harm; Do good; Stay in love with God**  
(Recommended reading: "Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living"  
Reuben Job, Abingdon Press, 2007)

### **Do No Harm**

- Use language everyone can understand (inclusive).
- Commit only available resources.
- Make decisions by consensus whenever possible
- Be truthful.
- If there is conflict, speak lovingly and directly.
- Be open, not approaching others with foregone conclusions.
- Approach others as children of God.
- Value every person, every task, every gift.
- We will not rush decisions.
- *Welcome all people, regardless of how they look, or speak, or act.*

### **Do Good**

- Seek justice.
- We exist for the world and not for ourselves.
- Support one another in our 24/7 Christian living.
- Celebrate our diverse gifts.
- When a brother or sister falls, reach out a hand.
- Be always in prayer for others.
- Use our resources responsibly.
- *Love your neighbor as yourself.*

### **Stay in Love with God**

- Ground all that we do in prayer.
- Seek wisdom from the scriptures.
- Walk humbly with your God.
- Rejoice and seek God.
- Spend time in Christian community.
- Be a Christ-centered community.
- Be in relationship with God to relate positively to one another.
- *Be true to yourself.*

Process: the congregation was invited to give input for the essential elements of a relational covenant designed to guide our church's relationships among ourselves and the world. The Council on Ministries reviewed the input and perceived that the elements all fell within the guidelines known as Wesley's Three Simple Rules. Our youth also provided input for each rule (listed in italics).