

**Unity of Birmingham Board of Trustees**  
**Code of Ethics and Commitment Agreement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, recognizing the important responsibility I am undertaking in serving as a member of the board of trustees of this church, hereby pledge to carry out in a trustworthy and diligent manner the duties and obligations of my role as a board member.

**My commitment:**

I will exercise the duties and responsibilities of this office with prayer, integrity, collegiality and care, always working to learn to do my job better.

I will hold sacred my own prayer life, my spiritual life and spiritual growth so I can set an example for others.

I will be respectful in my relationship with the minister, the staff, other board members and congregants.

**I pledge:**

- To read and abide by the Guidelines for Unity Board Effectiveness.
- To abide by all policies, procedures and codes of conduct set by the board.
- To establish as a high priority to attend and participate in Sunday services and other church sponsored activities.
- To count the offering after Sunday service as needed and finding a replacement if I cannot make it to a Sunday where I have committed to count offerings.
- To attend, participate in, and openly support activities of prayer and community/team building that will enhance my experience as a trustee and enrich my own spirituality.
- To establish as a high priority my attendance at all meetings of the board and the ministry teams that I serve on.
- To recognize that all authority is vested in the full board only when it meets in legal session.
- To be prepared to participate actively in board meetings and keep informed of developments relevant to issues that may come before the board.
- To timely respond to contact via phone, email or text regarding board information within 24 hours.
- To support all actions taken by the board in a positive manner, even when I am in a minority position on the action.
- To respect the confidentiality of all discussions at board meetings and not share details of those discussions other than what is included in the board minutes.

- To make decisions in the context of the values, mission, vision and goals of the ministry.
- To interpret the needs of the congregation to the board and interpret the actions of the board to the congregation within the bounds of confidentiality discussed above.
- To represent the congregation and Unity principles and not a particular interest group or my personal position.
- To take my issues and concerns to the individuals involved and seek resolution rather than discuss conflicts with others not directly involved other than asking the minister to act as mediator. If necessary, I will take concerns to UWM Member Services or the Regional Representative for mediation.
- To acknowledge conflicts of interest between my personal life and my position on the board and abstain from voting when appropriate.
- To conduct myself in accordance with the highest ethical principles and avoid conduct that may jeopardize the ministry or reputation of Unity of Birmingham.
- To avoid interfering with the duties of the minister or undermining his or her authority with the staff.
- To ensure the ministry is well maintained, financially secure, growing and always operating in the best interests of those we serve.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_