A Covenant of Group Norms and Expectations
Congregation Council
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church
Glen Ellyn, Illinois
Revised February 2014

As elected leaders of Faith Lutheran Church, we agree to abide by the following as we work with one another and serve as examples of leadership and living in Christ: We will:

Before our council meetings, we will:

- Submit agenda items to the council secretary one week prior to the council meeting
- Send out reports to the Council Secretary by the end of the day on the Thursday prior to the council meeting
- Read reports and be prepared to comment at the meeting
- Read the minutes of the previous month's meeting
- Inform the council secretary if we know we won't be at the meeting
- Give timely feedback when requested
- Alert office for any technology needs in advance
- Provide materials to the office the day prior to the meeting if duplication is needed

During our council meetings we will:

- Arrive in time so that we can be in our places and ready to start the meeting on time
- Engage in respectful conversation
- no sideboards
- keeping to agenda
- disagreements are ok
- we can listen to other viewpoints
- open discussions (honest)
- speaking the truth in love
- Honor confidentiality and remind one another when our conversation is to be confidential
- Establish a time-limit for conversation/discussion
- Begin with prayer and study/reflection
- Take turns bringing snacks
- Support each other publicly
- Attend the meeting unless emergency comes up; consider attending virtually if that's an option (with adequate notice)

After our council meetings we will:

- Meet commitments
- Refrain from gossiping about the meeting
- Fulfill our duty of loyalty

As members of both the congregation and the congregation council, we will:

- Practice faithful and timely worship attendance
- Be active in education/spiritual growth
- Be available accountable to other congregation members

- Make a financial pledge to Faith Lutheran Church
- Practice daily prayer, praying for the council, our team, the congregation, and the staff
- Represent Faith in the community
- Incorporate prayer into team meetings
- Be active recruiters for ministry
- Be willing to delegate tasks
- Embody the spirit of what we are emphasizing
- Stay informed