First Universalist Church of Denver

Our Right Relations Policy

As members and friends of First Universalist Church, we believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every being. That’s one of the seven guiding principles of our faith. Our Right Relations Policy is an extension of that principle and is intended to foster an atmosphere and attitude of respect and tolerance within the First Universalist community. Here at First Universalist everyone deserves to be treated equally, fairly, and with respect. That’s who we are.

The Right Relations Policy provides some guidelines for what everyone has a right to expect at First Universalist. Whether we are engaging in conversation with members and friends on Sunday mornings, attending a class, lecture or seminar, participating in a small group, or serving on a council or committee, the Right Relations Policy is there as a reminder of how we should treat each other.

Here are the rightful expectations that every member, friend and visitor of First Universalist Church can expect:

- To be treated with dignity and respect
- To be listened to with courtesy
- To have her/his questions answered in a respectful manner
- To feel physically and emotionally safe
- To be able to participate in the free exchange of ideas
- To be treated with honesty and integrity

There are some behaviors, however, that do not reflect who we are and are inconsistent with the rightful expectations found in our Right Relations Policy. Here are some examples:

- Speaking disrespectfully
- Dominating discussions (not allowing others to speak)
- Shouting
- Threatening (actions or words)
- Writing hurtful letters and emails.
- Speaking slanderously or discourteously of one another
- Interrupting and causing a disruption at services or meetings

All of us come to First Universalist seeking to find that which ministers to us. As a Beloved Community, we also come together seeking community and connection. Following the guidelines set forth in the Right Relations Policy will help affirm who we are and will create a spirit of warmth, caring, compassion, tolerance and respect that will resonate within and beyond the walls of our congregation.

The Right Relations Policy is administered by the Committee on Ministry. Any comments about the policy or its application should be addressed to the Committee on Ministry.

The Committee on Ministry

Jim Boyd, Co-chair
Helen Gray, Co-chair