



Code of Conduct

Purpose and Values

Collier Street United Church [CSUC] is a nurturing faith community where diversity and inclusion are welcomed and celebrated in our worship and work in the community and the world.

The Code of Conduct sets our relationship guidelines for our community. These are developed for the congregation's use to protect and preserve the community's well-being. We strive to ensure our engagement, interactions, and communications represent our Vision and Core Values as we support healthy relationships in our community, remaining centred with God, in Barrie, On YOU!

Principles

The following principles outline how our conduct is reflected in our relationships, and our relating to one another, within the CSUC community:

1. We are Followers of God in Jesus Christ, who seek to develop ways of relating to each other that are consistent with the love and compassion lived and taught by Jesus.
2. We are a creative community of caring and unconditional acceptance among members/adherents of our CSUC community, those who use our space, those who are new to CSUC, and those in the broader society in Barrie and beyond.
3. We treat everyone with dignity and respect. As a Christian community, we will treat one another with respect, honesty, kindness, and openness, whether in agreement or disagreement. When we disagree with decisions, dissenting opinions are expressed respectfully, and those who disagree seek to find ways to continue in a spirit that supports the community. Where that is not possible, we conduct ourselves in a manner that does not adversely affect the community or our integrity.
4. We communicate with people by listening as much as we speak. In our listening, we seek first to understand rather than to respond.
5. We care and honour diversity, and the uniqueness of each individual and strive for the inclusion of all. We are becoming an actively anti-racist community that seeks to resist evil as we abolish hate in all its forms.
6. We are stewards of time, treasures, and talents. We seek to be equally concerned about how we conduct meetings, interact and communicate with one another, and make decisions, as we are about the issues.
7. We are proactive communicators. When we encounter situations with which we disagree, we will first address our concerns with the appropriate person or group in a spirit of curiosity and openness. When conflict arises, we acknowledge that it exists; we approach it

courageously; we address it respectfully and in a timely manner; and we seek resolution in positive, non-adversarial ways.

8. We are resolution oriented, where we recognize that conflict is natural, and we view it as an opportunity for growth; and where mistakes and inappropriate choices are understood as part of a process from which we learn.
9. We speak and act from a place of love and justice. When we feel we must speak “our truth” to another person, we endeavour, as the Scripture says, to “speak the truth in love.” We act for the greater good of the community.

This code is a basic guide for how the church will continue to conduct its worship and work at Collier in Barrie. This code is a complement to our Core Values. Everyone is expected to use wisdom, good judgment, great communication skills, common sense and compassion when dealing with others.

Our Vision:

Our dream is to be a community with open hearts, open minds and open will as we become:

stronger through various styles of worship;
deeper through discipleship;
warmer through unconditional welcome, fellowship
richer through radical inclusion;
broader through ministry to all ages and stages of life; and
larger through intentionally inviting others on this journey of faith.

Our Core Values:

Connection, Community, Creativity, Inclusion, Love, Hope, and Transformation.