

GRACE CHURCH DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Having attended the formal 'Rule of Christ' workshop/training program administered 6/21/2022 by Rev. Paul Woolverton, the Staff Parish Relations Team of Grace United Methodist Church, Paynesville, hereby adopts the following as our Grace Church Dispute Resolution Procedure. It is our intent to provide the membership, and our staff, a graceful, biblical and orderly means to settle any future internal disputes or disagreements.

STEP ONE - Look at Yourself Matthew 18: 8-9

- Discern God's Will through Prayer
- Can I Let it go?
- What part am I responsible for?
- What does God want?

next, only if issue remains unresolved

STEP TWO - One on One Matthew 18:15

- Go to the other person involved with the concern.
- Speak for yourself by starting your sentences with "I".
- Listen first. Work hard to understand the other person's point of view. Work together to create a solution.

next, only if issue remains unresolved

STEP THREE - Get Some Objective Help Matthew 18:16

Others can help to see things objectively. Take someone with you to help mediate or facilitate the process. Involve a committee member or other trusted individual to help resolve the issue. They can act as a witness. Witnesses are only there for moral support and should not comment on the situation.

next, only if issue remains unresolved

STEP FOUR - Take it to the Church Matthew 18:17a

Use the resources of the church. The pastor, members of SPRC or the Leadership Team are happy to help. Provide a written statement of your concerns to the chosen party and a meeting will be set to assist in resolving the issue.

next, only if issue remains unresolved

STEP FIVE - Shake the Dust Matthew 18:17b

Some issues cannot be resolved. Let go of the anger and disappointment at the unresolved issue and move on with your ministry.

next,

STEP SIX - God is There Matthew 18:20

God's powerful promise is to be with us in the midst of our problems. Let go and let God.