

# **CODE OF ETHICS FOR CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS & OFFICERS**

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
New Hamburg, Ontario

*Approved December 21, 2011*

*This document is provided to members of the Congregational Council and officers of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, New Hamburg, so that they may have a complete understanding of their responsibilities while serving their terms as representatives of the congregation.*

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

- Council members and officers agree to comply with this CODE OF ETHICS as they seek to represent the congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church.
- Council members and officers will act honestly and in good faith, endeavouring to maintain the trust of this congregation.
- Council members and officers will act responsibly and diligently to become familiar with the affairs of the congregation and to uphold its constitution, bylaws, policies and agreements. Council members will make a concerted effort to attend all meetings of the Council and congregation.
- Council members and officers will not promote their own interests or those of any congregational member, family member or friend to the detriment of the congregation. Council members and officers will not seek any special benefits or privileges by virtue of office, nor will they accept any compensation either personally or on behalf of any other person.
- Council members and officers will not disclose to any person information decided by the Council to be confidential or privileged or which reasonably ought to be deemed confidential. When in doubt, Council members and officers will request a determination by Council.
- Council members and officers will approach all Council issues with an open mind, preparing to make the best decisions on behalf of the congregation. Council members and officers will act ethically and with integrity and grace, informed by the procedural rules of order (Bourinot) and principles of good governance.
- Council members and officers will support and abide by the majority decisions of the Council even though they may occasionally disagree.
- Council members and officers will attempt to prevent or minimize conflict and will promote good relations among persons involved with and in our congregation.
- Recognizing that the governance of our congregation involves complex and changing requirements, Council members and officers will continue to make themselves familiar with items that come before the Council.