

*Covenant of Understanding between Sonya Stauffer Kurtz  
and Rochester Area Mennonite Fellowship, Rochester, NY*

As an ordained minister, Sonya pledges:

- to cultivate a life of prayer and Bible study
- to continue her personal and professional growth
- to serve the church by leading worship and adult education as time and interest allow
- to serve in church ministries as time and interest allow
- to be available to congregational members for conversations regarding faith and spirituality, as time and interest allow
- to maintain an awareness of developments in our conference and denomination, and to serve as a link between the congregation and the broader church, as appropriate
- to take on leadership roles in the conference and denomination as time and interest allow (serving as New York Mennonite Conference (NYMC) moderator until September 2013)
- to officiate at weddings as appropriate
- to uphold ethical standards for leaders as outlined in *A Mennonite Polity for Ministerial Leadership* (1996, Faith and Life Press, p. 106–127)
- to be accountable to the congregation through the Leadership Team, and to the Conference and denomination through the NYMC leadership commission

As members of Rochester Area Mennonite Fellowship, we pledge:

- to encourage and support Sonya in her ministry
- to explore with Sonya the ways ordained ministry can enhance the ministry of RAMF
- to continue to exercise our own gifts and ministries with zeal
- to provide accountability and discernment through regular meetings with the Minister-Congregation Relations Committee (MCRC)
- to review this Covenant and relationship at least annually, typically in May

*Through the encouragement we receive from being united in Christ, the comfort from his love, the fellowship with the Spirit, the tenderness and compassion, may our joy be complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.*

Based on Philippians 2:1–2