

our Community and expect those relationships to evidence being dependant and accountable to one another, serving one another in the Community, nation and world, supporting one another, especially those experiencing personal trials, resolving problems through loving confrontation, and restoring relationships that have been hurt.

Faith in God's Word should lead to behavior displaying His authority in our lives and to the relevant demonstration of faith integrated with learning. Scripture teaches that certain attributes such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are to be manifested by members of the Christian Community. By contrast, Scripture condemns such attitudes as greed, jealousy, pride, lust, needless anger, an unforgiving spirit, harmful discrimination, and prejudice. Furthermore, certain behaviors are expressly prohibited by Scripture. These include theft, lying, dishonesty, gossip, slander, profanity, vulgarity, adultery, homosexual behavior, premarital sex, drunkenness, immodesty, and occult practices.

Scripture teaches that all our actions (work, study, play) should be performed to the glory of God. We endeavor, therefore, to be selective in choices of entertainment and recreation, promoting those which strengthen the body of Christ and avoiding those which would diminish sensitivity to Christian responsibility. In violation of the scriptural teaching concerning personal dignity and moral purity, individuals are exploited and degraded by immoral and inhumane action of the pornographic industry. Therefore, possession of such materials is unacceptable behavior.

Since the body of the Christian is the temple of the Holy Spirit, deserving respect and preservation of its well being, we disapprove of the use of tobacco in any form and the use of alcoholic beverages. Under no circumstances should controlled substances such as marijuana, hallucinogens, depressants, stimulants, cocaine, and narcotics be used, possessed, sold, or distributed on or away from campus unless prescribed by a physician. Members are expected not to abuse the use of legal substances.

Scripture teaches the stewardship of God-given resources. Therefore, we disapprove of gambling (the exchange of money and goods by betting or wagering in its various forms). We recognize that dancing is an issue about which committed Christians disagree, and that discretion and maturity are required if dancing is to be an edifying activity. We therefore covenant together as a community to make decisions about our participation in dancing that reflect our commitment to Christ, our pursuit of holiness, our desire for purity in relationships, our adherence to biblical principles, and gracious sensitivity to others.

<sup>i</sup> Paraphrased from the Articles of Religion of The Wesleyan Church which can be found at <http://www.wesleyan.org/ME2/dirmod.asp?sid=5B7EE5C4A5BA407D93A6AF61EF94B471&nm=Spiritual+Helps&type=Publishing&mod=Publications%3A%3AArticle&mid=8F3A7027421841978F18BE895F87F791&tier=4&id=5464710074024B8BA82C3E55BD140EF8>