**Kitchen Sharing Covenant**

With gratitude for this kitchen that God has graciously entrusted to us,

we covenant to share it and its belongings in a spirit of love and grace,

that our life together may honor our Lord Jesus Christ.

*As a community, we covenant to strive for…*

* A kitchen that is attractive and welcoming to our guests.
* A kitchen that is kept clean and counters that are kept uncluttered.\*
* A kitchen that is not chaotic and in which everything has a place.
* A sense of shared common space.
* Respect for one another and one another’s things.
* Room for new people to get involved in ministries that use the kitchen.
* Every ministry to flourish in the kitchen without hindrance.
* A general sense of order, without being too ‘rulesy.’
* Grace for one another as we remember that none of us is perfect.

*\*(Note: There will be times, of course, when someone or some group might have to leave a temporary mess due to certain circumstances and clean up later. This is okay from time to time.)*

*We also covenant to submit ourselves to the following guidelines…*

* Any decisions that permanently affect the kitchen shall be made as a group.

*(This means at least 4 members of the kitchen committee should be the ones making any decisions about reorganizing the kitchen, making changes, etc., rather than 1 or 2 people doing it on their own.)*

* Decisions about keeping donated items shall also be made as a group.
* Broken, stained, unusable dishes shall be thrown away.
* Usable items that are considered no longer needed shall be put out on a lost and found table for at least 4 Sundays before being given away or discarded.
* If space allows, we shall store enough dishes and utensils necessary to cook and serve during our busiest times each year – no more, no less than this.
* Cabinets and drawers shall be labeled with properly spelled, non-obnoxious labels to help everyone know where things are and where they go.
* The Kitchen Committee shall meet at least twice a year to talk about how we are doing in upholding this covenant and address whatever else it needs to. These guidelines can be adapted during those meetings if necessary.

*Respectfully submitted by the Kitchen Committee, July of 2014*

*(Diana Clark, Tony Holmes Curran, Paula Grinwis, Bones Jansen, Sharita Prowant, Ginny Renna, Ken Rooy, Michele Rooy, Joanne Bush)*