**Anglican Diocese of Gippsland**

**BEING TOGETHER**

Jesus told us to love one another as he loves us. As Christians we know our life together is strengthened when our behaviour is consistent with our faith. However, our experience of being together can be difficult sometimes, particularly where there are differences. So it is important to be clear about what is loving behaviour towards each other.

*Being a community*

* We will **seek the common good** of the church, not just our own interests.
* We will **encourage each other to participate** in the life of the church.
* We will be **aware of how our behaviour affects others**.
* *Relating to each other*
* We will **treat each other with respect and dignity** irrespective of ability, gender, sexuality, race, age, or contribution of the church.
* We will **act with integrity and honesty** in our interactions with each other.
* *Communicating with each other*
* We will **communicate respectfully** with others, and not in a way that threatens, belittles or humiliates.
* We will **respect confidences**, and refrain from speculation and gossip.

**Acknowledgement**

*This Policy is an adaption of the Professional Standards Unit of the Anglican Church Diocese of Bendigo. We thank them for their work in this area and their willingness to share it with the wider church.*