How to Maintain Congregational Harmony
1 Cor. 1:10

Introduction:
A. God wants all members of one body to work together in peace (1 Thess. 5:13; 1 Cor. 1:10; 3:3; 11:18; 12:25)
B. 1 Corinthians shows actions contributing to that peace.

Discussion:

I. Watch Your Words. (v. 15,16,21).
A. Carefully select our words. (Col. 4:6).
   2. Avoid foolish disputes. (Tit. 3:9; 1 Tim. 6:4).
B. Carefully guard secrets.
   1. Do not prematurely publicize private sins. (Matt. 18:15-17).
   2. Do not repeat private transgressions. (Prov. 17:9).
      a. Not necessary publicize most transgressions you may know.
      b. May become necessary to publicize some for good of church. (cf. 3 Jno. 9; 1 Tim. 1:20; 2 Tim. 4:10,14,15)

II. Show Mutual Respect. (v. 21, 25, 26)
A. Some act like body is one member — them. — Stirs resentment and strife.
B. Some act like body exists to serve them. — Jump to their tune or face trouble.

III. Practice Mature Thinking. (1 Cor. 2:4,5; 3:3-4).
A. Many converted to the gospel preacher more than to the gospel preached.
B. Many take a partisan approach.
C. Many take an adversarial approach.

IV. Accept Necessary Differences. (vv. 17,18; 28-29; Rom. 12:4).
A. Some members try to be preachers and teachers - without ability or knowledge. (cf. Jas. 3:1)
B. Some preachers and teachers try to be elders - without qualification or appointment.
C. Some elders try to be lords. (1 Pet. 5:2,3).
D. Some women try to be men. (1 Tim. 2:11-15).

V. Demonstrate True Love. (1 Cor 13:4-7).

Conclusion:
A. Are we in harmony with each other?
B. More importantly, are we in harmony with God?