

COVENANT OF CLOSURE

The Rev. _____, the _____ Presbyterian Church, and the Presbytery of Milwaukee, having discussed the intent and requirements of the Presbytery's "Ethics Regarding Former Ministers" enter into the following covenant:

1. I, the Rev. _____ agree:
 - not to become involved in any leadership or advisory role (public or private) in the _____ Presbyterian Church congregation.
 - not to intervene, support, or give advice to anyone involved in a congregational disagreement or dispute.
 - not to officiate in any special events in the lives of former parishioners or of the congregation, including weddings, funerals, baptisms, worship leadership, church anniversary activities, etc. unless expressly invited by both the Pastor and the Session (or the Session if the church is without a Pastor).
 - to refuse requests for pastoral services made by members of the congregation.
 - to consult with the Moderator of Session prior to visiting the congregation, attending worship or attending a special event.
 - to refrain from giving opinions or directions regarding church business.
 - to explain and affirm the above principles to the congregation in writing (by letter or newsletter) and/or the pulpit before departing.

It is understood that this policy does not affect or require termination of friendships with individuals in the _____ Presbyterian Church congregation.

2. The Session of the _____ Presbyterian Church agrees:
 - to respect the terms of the Covenant agreed upon above.
 - to interpret the terms of the Covenant to the congregation and to incorporate this agreement in the minutes of the congregational meeting when the pastoral relationship is dissolved.
 - to incorporate this agreement in the Session Minutes.

_____ Date

Signature, Pastor

Signature, Clerk of Session

Signature, Presbytery Representative