



Covenant Agreement

Our connectional ministry, sexual ethics, and professional boundaries

I understand that the ministerial office is a position of great trust, power and responsibility. And I acknowledge that this trust and responsibility provides the opportunity for unique relationships of grace and caring.

I understand that the policies regarding sexual ethics and professional boundaries of the Río Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church apply to me, as do the *Book of Discipline's* standards regarding sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment (Para. 2702).

I promise to live out my ministry with the highest standards of personal and professional conduct. If I am accused of violating these ministerial standards, I understand that I will be subject to the processes outlined in the policies of the Río Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church and *Book of Discipline*.

I have heard and acknowledge that: The Río Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church does not approve of and will not tolerate sexual misconduct or sexual harassment by clergy, including all persons appointed or assigned to a local church or extension ministry. The Annual Conference is committed to the eradication of this conduct. The Annual Conference is also committed to the creation of an environment of hospitality for all persons. It is to be an environment that is free of sexual exploitation and abuse of power, one that encourages respect, equality, and kinship in Christ.

I understand that my covenant with other clergy requires that we sustain one another in Christian character and that we are accountable to speak the truth to one another in love. If one of us fails, we all fail. We must maintain high expectations of each other.

Signature _____

Name (please print) _____

Date of Training _____

Current Appointment _____

Location of Appointment _____

Assistant to the Bishop signature verifying training completion
