**Covenant to Pastors**

The National and District Conferences of Mennonite Brethren Churches, which believe that God has called its pastors into ministry, promise to you pastor, with Godʼs help...

**In your personal life:** To care for your relationship with God through prayer, personal contact, and opportunities for encouragement; To care for your physical health by promoting rest, regular exercise, and a well-balanced diet; To care for your purity of thoughts, words, and behavior by providing appropriate resources and support.

**In relation to your family:** To help you, if married, to love your spouse more than your ministry; To provide support to you, if parenting, to invest time to love and nurture your children in God’s ways; To affirm you, if single, as you build meaningful and right relationships with friends who provide appropriate emotional support.

**In relation to finances:** To see to it that you are compensated fairly and appropriately by your congregation in a timely manner; To direct you to resources regarding personal and congregational stewardship; To be a model to follow and to be transparent with regard to managing corporate resources; To show gratefulness to all congregations despite their financial support of the conference.

**In relation to ministry:** To reflect the beauty and dignity of Jesus Christ in relationship to our local and global ministry partners and churches; To enable you to give your full energy to your congregation and stepping in when the demands become too great; To maintain confidentiality, except where this might endanger the welfare of yourself or others; To provide a District Minister as support for your ministry.

**In relation to your congregation:** To assist you in leading the church to which you have been called and to achieve the calling God has for it; To regularly provide evaluation of your ministry, giving appropriate advice and counsel; To keep you and your congregation updated about USMB policies, practices, and activities that directly affect you; To partner with you and your congregation, bringing you into this one family of Mennonite Brethren churches.

**In relation to your colleagues:** To speak well of you to your colleagues, enhancing your reputation and ministry; To provide for you the opportunity to connect with your colleagues in formal and informal settings; To assist you, your successors, and your predecessors in having a relationship built on respect and integrity.

**In relation to your conference:** To model, teach, and provide resources about the Confession of Faith of the Mennonite Brethren; To support your ministry as you lead your congregation to support the Mennonite Brethren ministries; To provide counsel through the District Minister and the District Board of Faith and Life as it pertains to the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith and/or Conference policies.

**Pastor’s Signature District Conference Representative Date**

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**National Conference Representative**

(Revised 10/17/2017)