

## Covenant of Sexual Ethics for Pastors

The U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches has developed a “Pastoral Covenant” for licensed and/or ordained ministers. All who serve the church and minister in the name of Christ are called to live a life of godly character and moral and ethical conduct. In concert with the “Pastoral Covenant,” the following Covenant of Sexual Ethics is offered to guide the minister’s practice.

1. As a representative of God and the church, and as an agent of healing and redemption. I am aware that Sexual Misconduct is an abuse of trust, power and authority, and a violation of the pastoral position. I accept responsibility to maintain appropriate boundaries within my ministerial relationships.
2. I will avoid developing inappropriate intimate relationships and be alert to demands or temptations confronting me that would challenge my integrity. I will, with God’s help, behave in a godly and professional manner at all times.
3. I am aware that my personal relationships and life must reflect healthy morals and sexuality, and that the use of pornography or other forms of immorality may lead to the suspension or revocation of my license or ordination.
4. I am aware that discipline for Sexual Misconduct provides grounds for suspension of or revocation of my ministerial credentials.
5. I have read in its entirety the resource entitled “A Resource for Churches Dealing with Sexual Misconduct.”
6. I accept the responsibility to call others to account and to exercise biblical responsibility to confront colleagues concerning perceptions of inappropriate sexual relationships.
7. I am aware of my calling as a servant of God under the lordship of Jesus Christ and I accept my responsibility for and accountability to people entrusted to my care. As a leader in the community of faith. I am committed to provide a safe place in the church where people can be vulnerable without fearing that sexual boundaries will be violated.
8. I accept the obligation to disclose information regarding previous Sexual Misconduct prior to formal candidacy for a new ministry position.

Pastor	Date
District Minister	Date
Congregational Board Chair	Date