

CHURCH COVENANT STATEMENT

Presbytery of Coastal Carolina Commission on Ministry

Church Name: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

“As God who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct...”

1 Peter 1:15

We believe that Jesus Christ calls us to standards of responsible conduct in all areas of life. We affirm on the basis of both Scripture and the Presbyterian Constitution that the behavior of church leaders must be exemplary.

The purpose of the *Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy* of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina is to:

1. declare and maintain a high standard for the professional ministry in accord with G-6.0106 of the *Book of Order*;
2. prevent sexual misconduct and abuse;
3. safeguard the church, the church's members, and staff from any form of sexual misconduct;
4. seek justice by assuring effectiveness of the church's administrative, investigative and judicial processes in determining truth, protecting the innocent, and dealing appropriately with those who victimize others;
5. promote healing of all persons and congregations where sexual misconduct has occurred, working to restore relationships broken by the sexual misconduct; and
6. address questions and concerns by establishing a process which will be responsive, confidential, and compassionate when situations or accusations of sexual misconduct arise.

The Session and Pastor (or Moderator) have read, understand, and hereby agree to abide by the intent of the *Sexual Misconduct Policy* of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, as well as its terms and conditions. We will also make certain that this congregation has a Sexual Misconduct Policy and that its pastor(s) maintain their training and background checks as required by the Commission on Ministry. (This is currently done every two years through **Safe Gatherings**.)

Signed:

Pastor/Moderator of Session

Date

Clerk of Session

Date

Churches: Please keep a copy of this signed document for your files, and return the original in a timely manner to: Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, 807 W. King St., Elizabethtown, NC 28337.