

BOUNDARIES COVENANT

Presbytery of Los Ranchos

{Normally this Covenant will be read and signed during a service of worship of the congregation. Copies shall be kept by the Pastor, Clerk of Session, and Presbytery.}

This covenant will guide the future relationship between the Rev. _____ (hereafter referred to as “the pastor”) and the _____ Church of _____, California (hereafter referred to as “the church”) who both understand and accept the terms of this covenant in order that the relationships with new pastoral staff can develop in positive ways.

This covenant is designed to set healthy boundaries in the process of separation from any further pastoral duties as of _____. Both Pastor & Session (on behalf of the congregation) mutually agree to support the following conditions of the covenant:

1. As of the above date, the pastor will relinquish all pastoral and administrative duties and will no longer function as part of the pastoral or administrative team of the church.
2. The pastor is determined to be supportive of future pastoral and lay leadership of the church and will refuse to receive or participate in any negative comments, conversations or activities that might undermine any program or person of the church.
3. Any future contacts that may occur between the pastor and the congregation will be as friends and not in a pastor/parishioner relationship. The pastor will not participate in any weddings, funerals, baptisms, nor engage in any hospital or pastoral visitation or serving of Holy Communion until at least one year after the installation of the new pastor. This is intended to allow the new pastoral relationship to develop.

[Exceptions to this provision must be agreed to prior to signing this Covenant.]

This covenant is offered to the church for the sole purpose of strengthening the ministry of the church in the future. It grows out of a deep gratitude for the special relationship that develops between pastor and congregation.

In signing, the parties indicate a commitment to abide by the above “Boundaries Covenant” and that they have received, understand, and will abide by the “Separation Ethics” policy of the Presbytery of Los Ranchos.

_____ Clerk of Session

_____ The Pastor

_____ Moderator of Committee on Ministry

_____ Stated Clerk of Presbytery

_____ Next Installed Pastor

_____ Date Signed

Are there addendums to the Boundaries Covenant that have been approved? YES ___ NO ___
If yes, please attach them.