

Port Huron Clergy Covenant - 2005

This clergy covenant, based upon our primary covenant with God and upon our covenant with other Christians, is the basis of our ministry together. As part of the clergy of the Port Huron District we covenant with each other to the following several attitudes and behaviors:

- Giving each other prayerful support and encouragement in our ministries. ("Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as it the habit of some, but encouraging one another, all the more as you see the Day approaching." – Hebrews 10:24-25)
- Seeing each other as colleagues rather than competitors. ("If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you then are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" - I Corinthians 12:26-27)
- Refusing to gossip and spread rumors about one another. ("If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless" - James 1:26)
- Helping to pave the way for our successors, and respecting and affirming the ministry of our predecessors. ("I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but is it God who gives the growth. Neither the one who plants or the one who waters is anything, but only God who makes things grow" - I Corinthians 3:6-7)
- Leading our churches to pay their full share of apportionments, so that all of our clergy colleagues can receive their pensions, medical insurance, etc. and so that all of our ministries can be supported. ("Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard-pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality" - II Corinthians 8:13-14)
- ◆ Serving where we are needed in our appointments, just as we have promised in our ordination vows or upon being licensed for pastoral ministry. ("Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, decided to choose some of their own and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas" - Acts 15:22)
- Completing the church conference and year end annual church reports in a timely manner which can manifest our respect and mutuality with one another. ("The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught" - Mark 6:30)
- Living our lives and performing our ministry in a way that is faithful to our calling and evident of the highest ethical standards of being a Christian. ("Therefore I urge you, in view of God's mercy, to offer yourselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God -- this is your spiritual act of worship. Do you conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" - Romans 12:1-2)

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