

## FORMER PASTOR AND THE CONGREGATION

### Agreement for Future Relationships

This agreement will guide the future relationship between

Rev. \_\_\_\_\_  
and the congregation of \_\_\_\_\_.

It is intended to honor the work of the former pastor and to strengthen the relationship(s) with the new pastor(s). It is undertaken by the pastor and the elders on behalf of the congregation, out of deep gratitude and respect for the special relationships that develop between pastor and people.

1. Effective \_\_\_\_\_ (date), Rev. \_\_\_\_\_ relinquishes all pastoral and administrative duties for the congregation. She/he will only officiate in formal acts of ministry with the express approval of the council.

2. Rev. \_\_\_\_\_ pledges to support the future pastor(s) and leadership of the church. She/he will encourage open and constructive communication with the new pastoral staff. She/he will not engage in any conversations or activities which might undermine any program or person of the church.

3. Any future contact that may occur between Rev. \_\_\_\_\_ and the members of the congregation will be as friends, and not in an official capacity, except as requested by the council. Calls of a pastoral nature and conversations about congregational concerns will be referred to the new pastor.

We, the undersigned, make this agreement as stated above:

Council Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Classis Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_