

# DESIGNATED PASTOR COVENANT/CONTRACT

This Covenant/Contract between the congregation of \_\_\_\_\_ Church of \_\_\_\_\_, IN, the Reverend and the Presbytery of Wabash Valley is for the purpose of providing designated pastoral leadership to the \_\_\_\_\_ Church for a period of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

## DEFINITION

“A designated pastoral relationship, full or part-time, is a call to a minister of the Word and Sacrament established by the presbytery for a term of not less than two nor more than four years. The congregation and the minister must both have agreed to be considered for a designated relationship. The congregation’s pastoral nominating committee shall nominate to the congregation for its consideration and vote, only from among those ministers designated to it by the presbytery’s committee on ministry. The minister is installed by the presbytery and is a member of the session.” (G-14.0521)

“The presbytery may designate and the congregation may call more than one minister to serve as designated pastor, sharing duties within the congregation as agreed upon by the session and approved by the presbytery. When there is more than one pastor, the ministers and the session shall agree on a schedule for sharing the times each will moderate.” (G-14.0522)

“If there has been an open search process conducted by the committee on ministry and after at least two years of the designated pastor relationship, upon the concurrence of the committee on ministry, the designated pastor, and the session, acting in place of the pastor nominating committee for the single purpose of calling the designated pastor as pastor, a congregational meeting may be held to call the designated pastor as pastor. The session, with the concurrence of the committee on ministry, may call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee to conduct a full pastoral search or to prosecute the call to the designated pastor to become pastor. The action of the congregation shall be reported to the presbytery. If the congregational action is affirmative, the presbytery, after voting to approve the new pastoral relationship, shall install the designated pastor as pastor.” (G-14.0523)

## DESIGNATED MINISTRY GOALS

—*Please list and detail the agreed upon goals for the designated ministry.*—

## ACCOUNTABILITY

The designated pastor is accountable to the session of the church and to the presbytery through its committee on ministry.

## MUTUAL EXPECTATIONS

To provide prayer and spiritual support as members of the family of Christ.

It is agreed that if the congregation, the session, or the designated pastor experiences any suggestions, interference, or other difficulty with any former pastors of the church (installed or temporary), officers or members of the church, the matter will be dealt with promptly, and will be referred to the session and/or the committee on ministry. The session asks the designated pastor to deny any requests by, or for, any former pastor to conduct any services of worship, including baptisms, weddings, and funerals for any member.

**EXPECTATIONS OF THE DESIGNATED PASTOR**

- To be an active member of the Presbytery of Wabash Valley.
  - To work with the session to achieve the agreed upon designated ministry goals.
  - To review and report the progress of meeting the designated ministry goals to the COM every six (6) months.
- Please list and detail any additional job expectations of the designated pastor. —

**EXPECTATIONS OF THE SESSION**

- To review, feedback and support the designated pastor’s work through any appropriate committee at least every six (6) months.
- To negotiate time away from \_\_\_\_\_ Church by the designated pastor to fulfill responsibilities in the larger church, attend continuing education events and maintain personal care.
- To work with the designated pastor to achieve the agreed upon designated ministry goals.

**EXPECTATIONS OF THE PRESBYTERY**

- To provide support and consultative services to the designated pastor through the committee on ministry.
- To assist the session and the designated pastor with emerging needs through the resources of the committees of presbytery.

**FINANCIAL AND TIME PROVISIONS**

—Please attach the “ANNUAL SALARY REPORT/CHANGE OF CALL” for the current year. —

**TERMINATION PROVISIONS**

“The call approved by the presbytery is renewable anytime during the last six months of the term, and cannot be changed or dissolved except by consent of the presbytery, at the request of the pastor or at the request of the church by action of the congregation, when the presbytery, after consultation with the minister and the congregation finds that the church’s mission under the Word imperatively demands it, or when the term specified in the call expires without action having been taken to renew the call.” (G-14.0522)

Vacation and study leave compensation, if accrued, is to be paid in full at time of termination.

**SIGNATURES**

The session, being satisfied with the Reverend \_\_\_\_\_ qualification and trusting that \_\_\_\_\_ ministry in the Gospel will be to our spiritual benefit, hereby commits our congregation to this Covenant/Contract and invites \_\_\_\_\_ to accept this installed designated position.

Clerk of Session \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Designated Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

COM Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_