

# Covenant of Ministerial Ethics

By Dr. Kenneth Heer

## **TOWARD GOD**

I am a child of God. The most important pursuit of my life is that of knowing Him and living in a manner that pleases Him. I will be diligent in those disciplines which cultivate my relationship with Him, and in those means of grace through which He continues to enrich my life.

## **TOWARD MY CALLING**

I am a minister of the Gospel. I will devote myself to the faithful proclamation of the Word of God both within the church and to a world in need of His redeeming love. I will always seek excellence in the performance of my tasks. I will, relying upon God's help, never bring reproach upon my calling because of improper relationships or impure motives. I will keep myself morally pure, ethically clean, and spiritually whole.

## **TOWARD MY CHURCH**

I am a shepherd to people who belong to the Lord. I will be faithful in providing them spiritual care and instruction in God's Word. I will always speak the truth in love. I will lead as a follower of Christ, sharing the vision God has given me for ministry and development of His church. I will be available to laugh with those who laugh and weep with those who weep. I will never lose the sense of urgency in bringing people to Christ. I will never share what is told me in confidence. I will seek to earn the trust of those under my care by being a person of integrity.

## **TOWARD MY FAMILY**

I am a member of a family. They are the most important people in my life. I will give them my best attention and time. I will not use my family as a dumping ground for my frustrations or cause them to think less of people because of what I tell them. Maintaining the priority of a good marriage and a Christian home will be my gift to the families of my Church.

## **TOWARD OTHER MINISTERS**

I am one among many who have answered God's call to specialized ministry. I need the fellowship, support and counsel that comes from my partners in ministry. I will always treat with respect those who precede and follow me in my pastoral assignments. I will be accountable to those who superintend me in my ministry. I will seek to learn from those more experienced and to share with those who can benefit from my experience.

## **TOWARD MY DENOMINATION**

I am part of a denomination. My Church has trained me, nurtured me, ordained me, and provided a place of ministry for me. It is only a part of Christ's church, but it has a significant place in my loyalties. I will submit to the authority of the Church over my ministry. I will be supportive of my Church at the local, district, and general levels. I will seek to promote its ministries and support its mission in the world.

## **TOWARD MY COMMUNITY**

I am a member of a community. I will be involved in activities and organizations where my influence as a representative of Christ can help bring redemption to individuals and to society, reconciliation to those who oppose each other, and enrichment to the lives of all. I will seek to elect and support persons in public office who share the traditional Christian values upon which our country was founded and which have made her great.