**Contract for Pastoral Services**

**Commissioned Ruling Elder**

The following agreement between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Commissioned Ruling Elder and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is for the purpose of providing pastoral leadership for a period of one year, beginning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Expectations of the Commissioned Ruling Elder (Modify as appropriate.)

1. (S)he will serve as Moderator of the Session.
2. (S)he will lead the congregation in worship by:
   * Engaging in the daily discipline of personal worship
   * Encouraging the people to participate fully and regularly in worship
   * Preaching each Sunday
   * Administering the sacraments
   * Leading special services as negotiated with the Session (up to four per year)
   * Conducting weddings and funerals
   * Conferring with the Worship Committee as to the components of the service
   * Providing appropriate resources and information for the bulleting no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. (S)he will lead the congregation in Christian Education by:

* Assisting the Session in providing for the development and supervision of the education program of the church.

1. (S)he will lead in Pastoral Care by:
   * Praying with and for the congregation
   * Visiting members of the congregation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hours per week, with particular attention to the sick, bereaved, troubled, and church visitors.
2. (S)he will lead in Administration by:
   * Working with the Session to assist it in implementing the church’s ministry and mission
   * Communicating with the congregation and with the presbytery
   * Helping the session set goals and strategies for his/her work
   * Reporting monthly to the Session on his/her work
   * Maintaining the following office hours at the church:

**Expectations of the Session**

* The Session will encourage and actively support the Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE)
* The Session will work with the CRE to establish goals for the present and future ministry of the church.
* The Session will communicate openly and honestly with the CRE as to needs and concerns of the congregation and the community.

**Accountability**

* This contract is subject to approval by the Committee on Ministry, which will assign a mentor to supervise the work of the CRE.
* The Session will, on a quarterly basis, evaluate the work of the CRE.

**Terms**

* This agreement is for a period of twelve months, beginning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It may be terminated at any time by either party with thirty (30) days notice. It may be extended, on an annual basis, by mutual agreement.
* The Commissioned Ruling Elder is expected to devote \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hours per week to ministry in the community.
* Compensation (monthly):
  + Salary \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Housing Allowance\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Reimbursable expenses \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Continuing Ed.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Vacation: four Sundays

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioned Ruling Elder

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