

# Endorsee Covenant Agreement

(Rev. October 2023)

I recognize that Ecclesiastical Endorsement is essential to me as a minister of Christian Churches and Churches of Christ if I am to be accepted, retained and reach my career goals as a Chaplain.

I also recognize that the responsibility to endorse includes the responsibility, in some cases, to withdraw endorsement for cause, whether for the welfare of the endorsed person, to protect the reputation of the ministry of our religious body or in the best interests of the employing institution. In consideration of my ecclesiastical endorsement, and for other valuable considerations a receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I freely and voluntarily agree not to pursue litigation against the Commission, for any reason, as a result of any withdrawal of endorsement by the Commission.

I further recognize that my cooperation is necessary to help ensure that my endorsement will remain a credible asset to me throughout the tenure of my Chaplaincy or other specialized service.

Therefore, I \_\_\_\_\_ agree and covenant with the Chaplaincy Endorsement Commission of Christian Churches and Churches of Christ that I will make a reasonable effort to:

1. **hold** myself to the highest professional standards of which I am capable. I will avail myself of opportunities to continue my education, develop my skills in ministry, and enhance my spiritual growth, so that my service will continue to represent the character, competence, compassion and commitment which are basic elements of pastoral care relative to my endorsement.

2. **contact** the Commission immediately concerning any personal problems or conflicts that could reflect negatively on my specialized ministry. I will be open to receive visits and counseling concerning any issues.

3. **inform** the Commission at any time that my theological or doctrinal orientation no longer affirms the distinctive characteristics which serve to identify the congregation of the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ which ordained me or the Commission which has endorsed me.

4. **notify** the Commission of any change in my family structure, employment status or location, addresses and telephone numbers.

5. **respond** promptly to Commission requests for reports and information.

6. **accept and coordinate** visits for the representatives of the Commission sent to observe and evaluate the conditions of my ministry, to interview supervisors, and give me personal encouragement and fellowship.

7. **contribute** my fair share of financial support for the Commission's Annual Budget to help guarantee that the endorsing service will continue for me while I am endorsed; and that the service will be available for others who aspire to engage in various specialized ministries. As I have opportunity, I will bring this service to the attention of congregations with which I have association, or where invited to speak, representing the Commission as worthy of support.

8. **remember always**, that I am called by Jesus Christ to His Mission; that I am a minister of Christian Churches and Churches of Christ, committed to its doctrines and practices; and that I am part of a Ministry Family and Team Outreach, with appropriate obligations to each.

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Signature of Chaplain or Applicant

Date