

## Pastoral Ministry Covenant Regarding the Use of Facebook and Other Social Media

As a child of God, a member of the church universal, and a clergyperson in Calvary United Methodist Church, I covenant to use Facebook and other social media in ways that bring honor to God and show respect for self and for all others who might view my postings on Facebook and other social media.

In particular, I covenant to *(initial in the space provided after you have read and agreed to each bulleted item)*:

- be cognizant of all that I post (in writing, image, and links and its reflection on me as a Christian and a leader in the church. \_\_\_\_\_
  
- recognize and respect that my behaviors and actions are also a reflection on those who are the connectional system of The United Methodist church. \_\_\_\_\_
  
- be mindful of the ways in which I offer personal information and how that affects my role and identity as a clergy leader and witness of Jesus Christ. \_\_\_\_\_
  
- take extra precautions to observe appropriate boundaries in my engagement in relationships online both pastoral and personal. \_\_\_\_\_
  - \* with others and children, this means \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - \* in establishing “friendships” with members of the congregation, this means \_\_\_\_\_
  
- take extra care not to be a hindrance to or cause harm to the pastor or the ministries of any church and congregation I have previously served. \_\_\_\_\_
  - \* I will not speak negatively or disparagingly about the current pastor or staff or the leadership they provide. \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - \* I will absolve myself of all pastoral responsibility and authority regarding any congregation I have previously served. \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - \* I will seek permission of the pastor currently appointed before officiating at weddings, funerals, baptisms, or in any formal leadership capacity related to members of former congregations. \_\_\_\_\_
  
- recognize and respect the privilege of utilizing social media as a tool for ministry. As such, I will regularly monitor the amount of time I spend on social media, the ways in which AI am utilizing it, and its effects on my ministry and service in Christ’s name. \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_