**Code of Ethics for Commissioned Ministers**

**Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska**

I am a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ, called of God to proclaim the unsearchable riches of God’s love. Therefore, I voluntarily adopt the following code of ethics so that I may fulfill the claims of the Gospel in my life.

1. In my personal conduct I will:
   * Develop my devotional life by regular Bible reading, meditation and prayer
   * Keep physically and emotionally fit
   * Share my time and abilities with my family
   * Be financially responsible and honest in my stewardship
   * Continue my education through reading, study and program opportunities provided or encouraged by the Christian Church (DOC).
   * Develop and conduct myself in a Christ-like way toward all people
2. In my relationship with the church which I serve, I will:
   * Be responsible in the use of my time and energy in my Christian ministry
   * Preach the Gospel as I understand it
   * Develop a ministry of the laity
   * Be aware that I am a representative of Christ and His Church wherever I am
   * Work to be impartial in conducting my pastoral duties
   * Maintain confidences in my pastoral ministry
   * Work to strengthen the congregation at all times, especially when concluding a pastorate
3. In my relationship to my fellow ministers, I will
   * Refuse to enter into unethical practices in order to secure a pulpit or place of honor.
   * Speak only constructively of my predecessor
   * Conduct a funeral or wedding at the former pastorate *only when invited to do so by the present minister.*
   * Support the present pastor when living in the community where I previously served
4. In my relationship to my community, I will:
   * Maintain my Christian standards in the face of community pressures
   * Assume reasonable community responsibilities
5. In my relationship to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), I will:
   * Acknowledge the spiritual and religious heritage of the Disciples of Christ and will promote a knowledge and understanding of it among others.
   * Participate in the local pastoral groups, assemblies, programs and activities in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) beyond the local congregation
6. In my relationship to the Church of Jesus Christ throughout the world, I will:
   * Recognize the unit of Christ’s Church
   * Recognize that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is an integral part of the whole church.
   * Recognize that the other denominations are also an integral part of the body of Christ
   * Actively support and encourage ecumenical relationships with the Church Universal
7. In my relationship to the Pastoral Leadership Commission, I will:
   * Agree to remain in a responsible relationship to the Commission through the supervisory and in-care program.
   * Agree to maintain boundaries training at the 3-year interval required

Signature Date