

LAY PASTORAL CARE

ETHICS COMMITMENT

I understand that in order to protect the rights of those congregational members with whom I visit, the rights of the congregation itself, and for my own protection, I will follow the instructions regarding:

1. Keeping all names and situations confidential (the law allows record keeping and discussions with organizational supervisory persons who have a need to know). Exceptions would include court orders and suspected child abuse; if such situations arise, I will contact our Minister immediately.
2. Reporting any suspected child or elder abuse within 48 hours (RCW 26.44.030). This may be done directly to Children's Protective Service or Adult Protective Service, though every effort on my part will be made to discuss the situation with the congregation's called Minister or his/her designee first in order to provide support and guidance for me.
3. Promptly discussing with the called Minister or his designee any information received from a care receiver regarding his/her or another person's threat to harm a third party or themselves.
4. Refraining from any romantic or sexual relationship with a person I am serving. Any complications or romantic advances by care receiver should be discussed with the called Minister or his/her designee.

Name: _____
Congregation _____

Signature: _____
Date: _____