

# APPENDIX 3

# **COUNSELING NOTICE**

## **(Appendix 3A)**

The pastoral staff is aware that the law of this state recognizes a clergy-penitent privilege protecting confessions to members of the clergy.

It is the custom, duty, and practice under the discipline and tenets of this church to keep communications secret in the course of pastoral counseling. As such, communications made during counseling will not be revealed to any third party without your express consent.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the above notice and willingly consent to undergo pastoral counseling.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Sign]

# **COUNSELING NOTICE**

## **(Appendix 3B)**

The pastoral staff is aware that State law recognizes a clergy-penitent privilege protecting confessions to members of the clergy. Under the clergy-penitent privilege, ministers cannot be compelled to reveal the substance of parishioners' confessions in a court of law, report criminal activities or child abuse. However, this privilege is not mandatory.

Please be aware that it is not the tradition, custom, or duty under the discipline and tenets of this church to keep communications secret in the course of pastoral counseling. As such, communications made during counseling *may* be revealed as follows:

- Law Enforcement
  - information regarding the commission of a crime
  - information to prevent the imminent commission of a crime
  
- Church leadership or members
  - information of particular needs that others can help you with
  - information for disciplinary reasons in accordance with biblical principles
  
- Family members
  - information that in the sole discretion of the pastor is appropriate to reveal to your immediate family

Please be further advised that communications that leads the pastor to reasonably believe that child abuse may have occurred will be reported to law enforcement.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the above notice and willingly consent to undergo pastoral counseling.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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[Sign]