



American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region
INTERIM MINISTER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Preferred Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Marital Status: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Present Position: _____ If retired, month and year: _____

Licensed: ___ Ordained: ___ ABC ___ Non-ABC but Recognized ___ Other _____

Current Church Membership: _____

Positions you are open to:

- A. Pulpit supply
- B. Interim (short term - six months or less)
- C. Interim (long term – more than six months)
- D. Other: _____

Availability

Months and/or dates you can serve: _____

Specific dates/ times that you are NOT available: _____

Please describe the time you are able to provide a church each week (days and times): _____

Geography

Areas your are willing to serve in: _____

Distance/time you are willing to travel from home: _____

Please check all responses that apply.

Types of churches for which I'm best suited:

- A. Inner City
- B. Suburban
- C. Small City
- D. Small Town
- E. Rural
- F. Larger Regional Church
- G. Other _____

Theological Orientation:

- A. Fundamental
- B. Conservative
- C. Moderate
- D. Liberal

Leadership Style

- A. Authoritarian
- B. Directive

- C. Collaborative
- D. Non-Directive

Cooperation with ABCUSA

- A. Hostile
- B. Non-Cooperative

- C. Indifferent
- D. Cooperative

Characteristics of churches for which I am least suited:

- A. Charismatic
- B. Very traditional
- C. Very contemporary

- D. Conflicted
- E. Declining
- F. Other _____

Please describe the gifts and skills you have:

Educational Background

College _____

Seminary _____

Regional Ordination Program Yes No If yes, date completed: _____

Sacred Boundaries Course or other Professional Ethics Course? Yes NO

Ministry Background: (Briefly indicate the ministry positions you have held)

What has been your most recent ministry and when did you complete it?

References – List three persons who have experienced your ministry:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone _____

Have you been officially charged with or convicted of child abuse, sexual misbehavior and/or domestic violence? (as part of either legal or ecclesiastical action)
_____ YES _____ NO *If YES, please explain on an attachment.*

Have you been charged with or convicted of any other crime?
_____ YES _____ NO *If YES, please explain on an attachment.*

Is there any other ethical or moral conduct in your background that might reduce the effectiveness of your ministry?
_____ YES _____ NO *If YES, please explain on an attachment.*

Have you read and do you agree to the GRR "Procedure for Ecclesiastical Review" regarding misconduct charges? _____ YES _____ NO

I verify that the information contained in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further understand and agree that a background investigation may be conducted with respect to me and that the information I have provided the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region may be verified by contacting persons and organizations with whom I have had contact or which may have information concerning me. I agree to release from liability and damages the Great Rivers Region and its agent(s) who conduct and participate in any such review and those individuals, organizations, and their agent(s) who provide information regarding me during this review, only to the extent that such information is released without malicious intent. I authorize all such persons to treat a photocopy of this Authorization as though it were an original, executed Authorization.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

At: _____ (city and state)

Print Your Name: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Signature: _____

Please complete and return this placement form as soon as possible to: Candice Stivers
ABCGRR POB 3786, Springfield, IL 62708 Attach a copy of your ABPS profile or resume.

INTERIM PASTORS COVENANT

___ I will accept an assignment only if I am in accord with the policies and procedures of the Interim Ministry Program of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region.

___ I will be impartial about the personality and ministry of the former pastor of the congregation I serve, while at the same time helping persons of the congregation to express, understand, and evaluate their feelings about their relationship with that pastoral leader.

___ I will not consult with the Pastoral Search Committee or its members regarding potential pastoral candidates and will not promote any particular candidate for the position.

___ I will maintain strong professional ties during the assignment with: the staff of the Region, the assigned church and colleagues in the cluster or Area.

___ I will work as a team member and colleague with the Area Minister during the assignment, keeping them informed of ministry progress of the congregation, and consulting in ministry with the assigned church.

___ I will not let the church I serve as interim pastor consider me as a pastoral candidate.

___ Upon the completion of my assignment, I will sever my professional relations with the church and will abstain from professional contacts with the congregation without the request or consent of the current pastor.

___ I accept the Covenant and Code of Ethics for Professional Church Leaders.

**The Covenant and the Code of Ethics
for Professional Church Leaders
of The American Baptist Churches in the U.S. A.**

Having accepted God's call to leadership in Christ's Church, I covenant with God to serve Christ and the Church with God's help, to deepen my obedience to the Two Great Commandments: to love the Lord our God with all my heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love my neighbor as myself.

In affirmation of this commitment, I will abide by the Code of Ethics of the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Churches and I will faithfully support its purposes and ideals. As further affirmation of my commitment, I covenant with my colleagues in ministry that we will hold one another accountable for fulfillment of all the public actions set forth in our Code of Ethics.

I Will ... hold in trust the traditions and practices of our American Baptist Churches; I will not accept a position in the American Baptist family unless I am in accord with those traditions and practices; nor will I use my influence to alienate my congregational/constituents or any part thereof from its relationship and support of the denomination. If my convictions change, I will resign my position.

...respect and recognize the variety of calls to ministry among my American Baptist colleagues, and other Christians.

... seek to support all colleagues in ministry by building constructive relationships wherever I serve, both with the staff where I work and with colleagues in neighboring churches.

... advocate adequate compensation for my profession. I will help lay persons and colleagues to understand that professional church leaders should not expect or require fees for pastoral services from constituents they serve, when these constituents are helping pay their salaries.

... not seek personal favors or discounts on the basis of my professional status.

... maintain a disciplined ministry in such ways as keeping hours of prayer and devotions, endeavoring to maintain wholesome family relationships, sexual integrity, financial responsibility, regularly engaging in educational and recreational activities for professional and personal development. I will seek to maintain good health habits.

...recognize that my primary obligation is to the church or employing group to which I have been called, and will accept added responsibilities only if they do not interfere with the overall effectiveness of my ministry.

... personally and publicly support my colleague who experience discrimination on the basis of gender, race, age, marital status, national origin, physical impairment or disability.

... upon my resignation or retirement, sever my professional church leadership relations with my former constituents, and will not make professional contacts in the field of another professional church leader without his/her request and/or consent.

... hold in confidence any privileged communication received by me during the conduct of my ministry. I will not disclose confidential communications in private or public except when in my practice of ministry I am convinced that the sanctity of confidentiality is outweighed by my well-founded belief that the parishioner/client will cause imminent, life-threatening or substantial harm to self or others, or unless the privilege is waived by those giving the information.

... not proselytize from other Christian churches.

... show my personal love for God as revealed in Jesus Christ in my life and ministry, as I strive together with my colleagues to preserve the dignity, maintain the discipline and promote the integrity of the vocation to which we have been called.

I am in agreement with this statement: _____

signed

date