

## *Covenant Agreement and Release*

### *Covenant Agreement and Explorer/Disciple Release*

I have read and discussed the goals and responsibilities of both Explorers/Disciples in the Commissioned Ruling Elder Program and communicated with the respective committee/commission. I understand that this training and discernment phase, while necessary, does not automatically commit the Presbytery to granting a commission. I do hereby wish to be enrolled in the preparation for the program of Commissioned Ruling Elders in Shenandoah Presbytery, with the understanding that I subject myself to the guidance, counsel and disciplines of the Church as represented by the presbytery and its committee/ commission overseeing preparation for ministry. I fully agree and understand that the decision of the presbytery's committee/ commission regarding my suitability for ministry may involve questions and/or inquiries that are both personal and private, and I hereby release the Church and Presbytery and its committees, agents and representatives from any claims, causes, or actions, which may arise from said inquiries and answers received to such inquiries or any uses made of such answers. Further I grant permission to the presbytery's committee/commission to contact any person listed by me as a reference or any other person not so listed to discuss my "suitability for commissioned service" (G- 2.0603).

I covenant with God, the session, and the presbytery to rely upon the grace of God; to maintain a Christian character and conduct; and to be diligent and faithful in pursuing my call and in preparing for the consideration to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder for Shenandoah Presbytery. By my signature, I hereby certify that this covenant agreement and release is fully understood by me, and I sign it understanding that I will be bound by its terms.

Signature of inquirer: \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of witness: \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_

The session covenants to be a faithful partner with you in this relationship and to support, to care and to nurture you with love as you discern your call to the ministry as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

## *Covenant Agreement and Release*

Signature of the moderator of session: \_\_\_\_\_ *date:* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of witness: \_\_\_\_\_ *date:* \_\_\_\_\_

The presbytery covenants to be a faithful and just partner with you in this relationship and to support, to guide, to nurture and to evaluate you with an understanding and sympathetic interest as you discern your call to the ministry as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Signature of the moderator of the presbytery's committee/commission:

\_\_\_\_\_ *Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of witness:

\_\_\_\_\_ *Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Moderator of the presbytery's committee/commission will mail copies of this page to all parties signing document and the stated clerk of the presbytery.*