



NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE

NAB CODE OF MINISTERIAL ETHICS

As a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, called and gifted by God, I dedicate myself to conduct my ministry in accordance with the following NAB Code of Ministerial Ethics.

By our Lord's gracious leading and strength. . .

I will constantly prepare myself in body, mind, and spirit for the task to which God has called me.

I will seek to exercise integrity in all my financial dealings while setting an example of biblical stewardship when giving to the work of the Lord.

I will, if a full-time minister, confer with church leaders before accepting remuneration for work other than that normally associated with the pastorate.

I will seek to build up the church without discrediting individual believers, a local congregation, or any other churches and ministries.

I will balance my family commitments and church duties properly.

I will keep all appropriate confidences shared with me in counseling sessions and other ministry contexts, except in cases where disclosure is required by law or necessary to prevent an individual from harming himself/herself or another.

I will be truthful in my speech, never plagiarizing another's work.

I will not be involved in communicating gossip.

I will keep my life morally pure by not engaging in pornography or becoming romantically or sexually involved in any relationship that is in violation of biblical standards of morality.

I will exercise the authority of a servant-leader who influences others through love and understanding and who humbly acknowledges dependence upon God, putting the interests of others above my own.

I will, if I serve in an associate pastor role, support the leadership of the senior/lead pastor and not undermine his ministry in public settings or private conversations with others.

I will, if serving with multiple staff, show respect for other ministers and staff members and shall encourage and work with them as members of a team.

I will relate to other ministers with the respect that is due fellow servants of Jesus Christ and shall cooperate with them as God leads.

I will seek the fellowship of the pastors of the North American Baptist Conference.

I will encourage participation in the mission and ministry of the NAB Conference, as well as the region/association in which I serve.

I will not intentionally cause division within the congregation I serve. If I resign or am asked to resign, I will not seek to provide pastoral leadership for any new church that may develop in the same community unless approved by the region/association.

Upon my resignation or removal from a local church, I will not interfere with matters related to that local church, withdrawing from any official pastoral relations with that local church unless otherwise arranged with the leadership and/or subsequent pastor(s) of that local church.

I will obey the laws of my government as long as they do not conflict with the laws of God and will practice Christian citizenship without engaging in partisan or political activities that would discredit the integrity of the ministry.