**PASTORAL ETHICS AND CONCERNS**

By

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* A Pastor should not accept an appointment to speak or do any other thing in another Pastor’s district without his knowledge.
* When Pastors accept invitations to function outside of their district, this should come through the Pastor.
* Pastors should not baptize a member from another church area until he checks with the pastor from that church to see if the person is under disciplinary action or still holds membership in the church.
* Before performing weddings of members from outside the district, the Pastor should consult with the Pastor of the member who is requesting marriage.
* Disciplinary action should be taken when ever there is a need to do so, so that members will not be living in common law situations or other violation of biblical principles.
* Pastors should ensure that persons are not appointed to office in the church without their membership being transferred.
* Pastors should avoid doing funerals and weddings on Sabbaths.
* Pastors should be present and on time for all services and meetings.
* As far as possible the host Pastor of a church should be present to introduce a guest pastor who was invited to officiate at his church.
* Pastors and should not encourage members to ill-speak another pastor.
* Pastors should read their emails and clear their boxes at least once a week so that they can get information sent from the Conference Office, and relay it to their churches on time.
* Pastors need to submit their monthly reports on time (10thof every month.
* Pastors should not plan activities on the day set aside for the following meetings: President’s, Ministerial, Zonal and Continuing Education.
* Immature teenagers should not be elected to serve as Elders, Deacons and Deaconesses.
* When Pastors are transferred, they should allow the members sufficient time to bond with their new pastor.
* New Pastors entering a district or church should not discard the good things that are happening. The pastor should build on what is already there.
* Pastors should switch off their phones before they enter the church so that they can set an example for the members.
* Pastors are also in need of a blessing so they should be early for Church services. We need to lead by precept and example
* If you give a person a responsibility you should give them the authority. Don’t micro-manage.
* A pastor should not conduct a Board or a Business meeting in a church after the new pastor is introduced, without the pastor’s knowledge and permission.
* It is unethical for a Ministerial Worker to fail to submit his or her monthly reports for an entire year and then find justification for not reporting.
* It is unacceptable for a Ministerial Worker to engage in extra marital affairs, fornication, child sexual abuse, rape, or view pornographic material.
* Pastors should not borrow money from members.
* Pastors are employed by the Conference to serve the members and should make phone numbers available, so that they can be reached in times of need or emergency.