

A Covenant Agreement Between Buchanan Counseling (*A Samaritan Center*) and First United Methodist Church

Buchanan Counseling is a specialized ministry whose purpose is to provide quality pastor counseling in central Indiana. A part of its mission is to enhance the ministry of the First United Methodist Church of West Lafayette by providing professional psychotherapy and counseling, education and consultation to congregation members and other in the community who demonstrate need. The uniqueness of Buchanan's services is the commitment to and training of pastoral counselors in the integration of the psychological, physiological, and theological/spiritual perspectives in the care of people using these services.

To provide these ministries, Buchanan Counseling acts as an extension of participating congregations. This relationship is based on the following covenant agreement.

Buchanan Counseling, part of IU Health Partners of Indiana, will:

+Provide professional pastoral counseling, responding to the needs of individuals, couples, and families during periods of stress and/or intentional growth.

+Provide pastoral counseling services for a standard fee, and make available an adjusted fee schedule for each person whose income warrants it.

+Be sensitive to clients' spiritual needs, ethical values, and religious traditions. Respecting each individual's faith journey, staff will not attempt to proselytize or impose their beliefs on those who come for help and guidance.

+When asked, consult with the West Lafayette pastors when they are confronted with a crisis or confounding problems in their own counseling ministry.

+Provide information and descriptive materials about Buchanan's ministry. Articles and notices of upcoming programming will be provided for the church newsletter.

+Be available to participate in worship 1-2 times per year as requested and mutually agreed upon.

+Participate in staff meetings on an ongoing basis.

+Provide 1-3 hours of educational programming to the congregation each year at no charge and make additional educational hours available as mutually agreed upon.

+Maintain an assistance fund for reduced-fee clients

+Make a position available on the Buchanan Professional Advisory Committee for a member of First United Methodist Church of West Lafayette.

First United Methodist Church will:

+Pray for the work of the Buchanan staff and Professional Advisory Committee.

+Endorse Buchanan Counseling services as an extension of the congregation’s ministry and use Buchanan Counseling as its primary resource for counseling and consultation.

+Fairly represent Buchanan Counseling as a not-for-profit, fee-for-service ministry; and seek ways to find adequate financial subsidy for those who are being counseled below the actual cost of service. This may be attained by (choose all that are appropriate)

- Support this shared ministry by making available at no charge one furnished and maintained counseling office. This includes furniture, locking file cabinet, desk, tables, lamps, wall furnishings, and internet access.
- Support this shared ministry by reaching a goal of at least \$1.00 per member based on average worship attendance.
- Include Buchanan Counseling as part of the Faith Promise weekend.
- Other:

+Publicize Buchanan Counseling services within the congregation through newsletter articles, bulletin inserts, and distribution of Buchanan newsletters and informational materials.

+Find continuing ways to interpret the meaning and value of pastoral counseling to the leadership of the church by making available mutually agreed upon opportunities for Buchanan staff to participate in staff meetings, leading classes, workshops, leadership events and so forth.

+Recruit and provide at least one member of First United Methodist Church of West Lafayette for the Buchanan Professional Advisory Committee.

+Provide at least sixty (60) days advance notice to the center before ending this agreement.

Director, Buchanan Counseling

Date

Church Lay Representative

Date

Pastor

Date