Diocese of Western North Carolina
Clergy Standards of Conduct

The following are the Standards of Conduct for Clergy as named in Title IV, Canon 4:

**Clergy should:**
- Maintain confidentiality
- Safeguard property and funds of the church
- Conform to the canons of The Episcopal Church and the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer
- Abide by ordination vows
- Obtain consent of the bishop before engaging in secular employment
- Obtain consent of the bishop to be absent from the diocese for more than two years

**Clergy should not:**
- Engage in sexual misconduct (includes sexual behavior with: a member of the congregation; employee; volunteer; person in high school; person under 18 years of age; person legally incompetent; someone with whom the clergy has ever had a pastoral relationship)
- Hold or teach any doctrine contrary to that held by The Episcopal Church
- Commit criminal acts
- Engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation
- Habitually neglect public worship, Holy Communion
- Engage in any conduct unbecoming a member of the clergy