

COUNSELING AGREEMENT

**Village Presbyterian Church
John A. Larsen, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist**

This brief document represents an agreement between you, Village Presbyterian Church and Dr. John Larsen, who will serve as your counselor. You may revoke this agreement in writing at any time and that revocation will be binding on us unless we have taken action in reliance on it prior to your request.

THE COUNSELING PROCESS

Counseling is not easily described in general terms. It varies depending on the personalities of the counselor and client, and the particular problems of the client. It calls for a very active effort on the part of both client and counselor. Counseling can have risks as well as benefits. Since it often involves discussing unpleasant aspects of your life, you may experience uncomfortable feelings like sadness, guilt, anger, frustration, loneliness, and helplessness. On the other hand, it has also been shown to have many benefits such as better relationships, solutions to specific problems, and significant reductions in feelings of distress. But there are no guarantees of what you will experience. In general, the return from counseling is as good as one's investment in the process.

Counseling offered through the church is limited in its scope and duration due to the limited hours available. A referral can be made to an appropriate professional if your needs require long-term counseling.

FEES

The counseling you receive through Village Presbyterian Church is partially subsidized by the church. You are asked to make a contribution of \$45 toward the expense of providing this service. Checks are payable to Village Presbyterian Church. *It is also important to understand that your counseling is not a coverable service by any health insurance plans and cannot be filed for insurance reimbursement.* We can help you with a referral if you wish to use your insurance to underwrite the cost of your counseling.

MEETINGS

Meetings will take place at the church in the Bride's Room near the Chapel. You will schedule your appointments directly with Dr. Larsen at (913) 271-1453. **Should you need to cancel or reschedule an appointment you are asked to provide 24 hours advance notice so that your time can be given to another person.** The sessions run for 45-minutes and are typically scheduled on a weekly basis, though they may be scheduled more or less frequently according to your needs.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Your counseling can be coordinated through the Pastoral Care Department at the church or you may contact Dr. Larsen directly at (913) 271-1453. Due to Dr. Larsen's work schedule, he is often not immediately available by telephone. He does not take calls when counseling but will make every effort to return your call on the same day that you make it, with the exception of weekends and holidays. If you are difficult to reach, please inform him of times when you will be available to receive a call back. If he is not immediately available in an urgent situation please contact your family physician or the nearest emergency room and ask for the doctor on call.

