INFORMED CONSENT FORM

This is a Riverside Community church (RCC) based ministry providing pastoral care and lay counseling. We offer Biblical advocacy ministry to individuals seeking a biblical perspective on the issues of life and honor the Lord Jesus Christ. We require anyone receiving biblical advocacy service to read and sign this informed consent form.

We offer the biblical advocacy service free of charge as a pastoral care ministry of Riverside Community Church to people who are a part of this congregational, or the larger Body of Christ, who are in need of spiritual nurture, guidance and assistance.

Our biblical advocacy service is religious in nature, conducted under only the authority and leadership of the church. Our biblical advocacy service is based only on scripture principles. Our advocate, Pastor Jackie Kim has completed her doctoral degree in psychotherapy and her master degree in pastoral counseling and she is not licensed under state law. If you have significant medical, legal, mental or financial questions, you should seek professional advice from a competent independent professional. As the term is used hereby, ‘advocacy’ means a lay pastor helping to care for the RCC congregational members, and its community, assisting the clergy in the ministry of pastoral care rather than ongoing process-oriented therapy sessions.

You are free to discontinue advocacy/counseling at any time. It is important that you give us 24 hours notice if you need to cancel or change an appointment. After 2 late cancellations or no shows, we will need to evaluate making another appointment for you.

Confidentiality is an important as aspect of the advocacy process. We will carefully guard your identity and your personal information you entrust to us to the fullest extent possible. However, there may be situations where we will need to share information with relevant authorities, which may include: there are times, when it may be necessary for the ministry to share certain information with the lead pastor for a secure supervision at first. Indications of bodily harm to others, suicidal intentions, and reasonable evidence of child, spousal or elder abuse or neglect (A.R.S. 13-3620). If any of these occur, there is a lead pastor and legal duty to report the abuse or threat to appropriate social agencies.

Finally, if there is ongoing behavior that is clearly damaging to another (biblically immoral or unethical such as, but not limited to, adulterous behaviors) confidentiality may be broken in order to resolve the situation. In these cases, the advocate will first share the situation with a lead pastor to determine moral responsibility. In such cases, every effort will be made to assist him/her in resolving the issue in as gracious a way as possible.
I have read, understand, and acknowledge the information above and agree to the conditions set forth here.

________________________________ ______________________  ___________________
Printed Name                                          Signature                                Today’s Date

Release of Liability

THE UNDERSIGNED, having sought biblical advocacy as such as followed to by Riverside Community Church, a nonprofit religious organization, hereby acknowledges their understanding of the following condition and further releases from liability Riverside Community Church, its ministry employee, from any claim arising from the undersigned participation in the above-mentioned biblical advocacy ministry, the same being identified as follows:

This is a church-based ministry providing pastoral care service. I declare I am fully capable of discerning good and bad service, and I do not hold my pastor, Riverside Community Church, or any other associated ministry or organization liable for any negative results from my participation in these sessions or from following my advocate’s guidance.

Having clarified the principles and policies of our advocacy ministry, we welcome the opportunity to minister to you in the name of Christ and to be used by Him as He helps you grow in spiritual maturity and prepares you for usefulness in His body. If you have any questions about these guidelines, please speak with your pastor. Your signature below indicates your informed consent to these guidelines.

Participant Information

Printed Name: __________________________________________________________
Signature:___________________________ Date:__________________

Parent/Guardian Information

Printed Name: __________________________________________________________
Signature: __________________________________ Date: ________________
Signature of Pastor: ______________________________ Date: ________________