

## Section 8 – The ~~Committee~~ *Commission* on Ministry

- 8.1. The ~~Committee~~ *Commission* on Ministry shall carry out the work of the Presbytery as Pastor, Counselor, and Advisor to the Presbytery's ministers and congregations (G-3.0307). It shall be composed of two co-chairpersons and sixteen other members, divided as evenly as possible between ministers and ruling elders.
- 8.2. The ~~Committee~~ *Commission* on Ministry shall have the authority and the responsibility:
- A. To develop and maintain mechanisms and processes to serve as pastor and counselor to its ministers of the Word and Sacrament commissioned pastors [also known as commissioned ruling elders]), and certified Christian educators of the presbytery; to facilitate the relations between the presbytery and its congregations, ministers of the Word and Sacrament, commissioned pastors, and certified Christian educators; and to settle difficulties on behalf of the presbytery where possible and expedient (G-3.0307).
  - B. To make recommendations to the Presbytery regarding:
    - 1. the Standards for Ministerial Compensation.
    - ~~2. approval of terms of call for all installed pastors;~~
    - ~~3. annual validation of the ministries of those minister members serving in ministries beyond the PC(U.S.A.)~~
  - C. To provide counseling resources for professionals in the parishes and specialized ministries as the need may arise;
  - D. To provide for the spiritual and emotional development of all clergy;
  - ~~E. To appoint a moderator of a session where the pulpit is declared vacant;~~
  - F. To counsel with a member church if the various constituencies of the congregation are not fairly represented on the session;
  - ~~G. To appoint a commission for the ordination and/or installation of a minister who has received a properly approved call to labor within the bounds of Presbytery;~~
  - ~~H. To dismiss ministers, in good standing, who are without pastoral charge, in the intervals between stated meetings of Presbytery;~~
  - ~~I. To dissolve pastoral relationships and dismiss ministers in good standing to a calling Presbytery, in the interval between stated meetings of Presbytery, when requested by both the congregation and the minister;~~
  - J. *To present for examination by the Presbytery candidates for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament who have received a call, or who have undertaken a ministry eligible for validation within the bounds of the Presbytery.*
- 8.3. The Commission on Ministry shall have the ~~Presbytery's authority to dissolve the pastoral relationship in cases where the congregation and pastor concur, to grant permission to labor within or outside the bounds of the Presbytery, and to dismiss members to other~~

~~presbyteries, provided that all such actions be reported at the next stated meeting of the~~  
 Presbytery authority to act on behalf of the Presbytery:

- A. *To dissolve the pastoral relationship in cases where the congregation and pastor concur.*
- B. *To grant permission to labor within or outside the bounds of the Presbytery.*
- C. *To appoint moderators of sessions where there is no installed pastor, or where the installed pastor is unable to serve as moderator.*
- D. *To approve terms of call for installed pastors, provided that such terms meet or exceed the minimum standards approved by the Presbytery.*
- E. *To create and dissolve temporary pastoral relationships.*
- F. *To validate annually the ministries of those minister members serving in ministries beyond the PC(U.S.A.).*
- G. *To appoint a commission for the ordination and/or installation of a minister who has received a properly approved call to labor within the bounds of Presbytery.*
- H. *To dismiss ministers, in good standing, who are without pastoral charge.*
- I. *To dissolve pastoral relationships and dismiss ministers in good standing to a calling Presbytery, in the interval between stated meetings of Presbytery, when requested by both the congregation and the minister.*
- J. *To examine and receive minister members from other presbyteries, making suitable provision for such ministers to be presented and welcomed at a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.*
- K. *To examine and receive ministers of other denominations seeking temporary membership during their term of service at one of the congregations of the Presbytery, making suitable provision for such ministers to be presented and welcomed at a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.*
- L. *To confer upon minister members the status of Honorably Retired, making suitable provision, as appropriate, for the recognition of these ministers at a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.*

*All such actions shall be reported at the next stated meeting of the Presbytery, at which time the Presbytery may, if it chooses, rescind or amend these actions.*

## **Section 9 – The ~~Committee~~ *Commission* on Preparation for Ministry**

- 9.1. The ~~Committee~~ *Commission* on Preparation for Ministry shall be composed of a chairperson or two co-chairpersons, and sufficient members to constitute a total membership of nine. The members of this committee shall be ministers or elders, and their numbers shall be as nearly equal as possible.
- 9.2. The ~~Committee~~ *Commission* on Preparation for Ministry shall have the following responsibilities:
  - A. To adhere to the provisions of the *Book of Order* G-2.06 and all other constitutional provisions regarding the selection, care, and supervision of candidates for professional ministry;
  - B. To see to the observance of all such provisions of the *Book of Order* by each candidate under care of the Presbytery and by each prospective candidate;

- ~~C. To enroll inquirers on behalf of the Presbytery, provided that the action shall be reported at the next stated meeting of the Presbytery;~~
  - D. To fulfill such other related functions as may be properly assigned to the committee by the Presbytery or the Roundtable.
- 9.3. *The Commission on Preparation for Ministry shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Presbytery:*
- A. To enroll inquirers;*
  - B. To receive candidates for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament;*
  - C. To grant candidates permission to negotiate for service;*
  - D. To certify candidates ready to receive a call (G-2.0607);*
  - E. To transfer the covenant relationship of inquirers or candidates, with the approval of the sessions and the other presbytery involved (G-2.0608);*
  - F. To remove candidates or inquirers from the roll, for sufficient reasons, and after affording the candidate or inquirer an opportunity to be heard (G-2.0609).*

*All such actions shall be reported at the next stated meeting of the Presbytery, at which time the Presbytery may, if it chooses, rescind or amend these actions.*