

AMENDMENTS A

2005/2007 BOOK OF ORDER	REVISED AS 2007-2009 BOOK OF ORDER
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Preface</b></p> <p>... The Book of Order contains the Form of Government, Directory for Worship, and Rules of Discipline.</p> <p>In this Book of Order</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(1) "Shall" and "is to be/are to be" signify practice that is mandated,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(2) "Should" signifies practice that is strongly recommended,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(3) "Is appropriate" signifies practice that is commended as suitable,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(4) "May" signifies practice that is permissible but not required.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Preface</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Book of Order contains the Form of Government, Directory for Worship, and Rules of Discipline.</b></p> <p><b>In this Book of Order</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(1) "Shall" and "is to be/are to be" signify practice that is mandated,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(2) "Should" signifies practice that is strongly recommended,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(3) "Is appropriate" signifies practice that is commended as suitable,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(4) "May" signifies practice that is permissible but not required.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(5) Advisory handbook signifies a handbook produced by agencies of the General Assembly to guide synods and presbyteries in procedures related to the oversight of ministry. Such handbooks suggest procedures that are commended, but not required."</p>
<p><b>G-6.0500 Renunciation of Jurisdiction</b></p> <p><b>G-6.0501 Renunciation of Jurisdiction</b></p> <p>When a church officer, whether a minister of the Word and Sacrament, elder, or deacon, renounces the jurisdiction of this church in writing to the clerk or stated clerk of the governing body of jurisdiction, the renunciation shall be effective upon receipt. Renunciation of jurisdiction shall remove the officer from membership and ordained office and shall terminate the exercise of office.</p> <p><b>G-6.0502 Persistence in Disapproved Work</b></p> <p>When a church officer, after consultation</p>	<p><b>"G-6.0700 Renunciation of Jurisdiction</b></p> <p><b>"G-6.0701 Renunciation of Jurisdiction</b></p> <p><b>"When a church officer, whether a minister of the Word and Sacrament, elder, or deacon, renounces the jurisdiction of this church in writing to the clerk or stated clerk of the governing body of jurisdiction, the renunciation shall be effective upon receipt. Renunciation of jurisdiction shall remove the officer from membership and ordained office and shall terminate the exercise of office.</b></p> <p><b>"G-6.0702 Persistence in Disapproved Work</b></p> <p><b>"When a church officer, after consultation</b></p>

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<p>and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may presume that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church.</p> <p><b>G-6.0503 Effect of Renunciation</b></p> <p>The renunciation shall be reported by the clerk or stated clerk at the next meeting of the governing body, which shall record the renunciation, delete the officer's name from the appropriate roll, and take such other actions of an administrative character as may be required by the Constitution.</p>	<p><b>and notice, persists in a work disapproved by the governing body having jurisdiction, the governing body may presume that the officer has renounced the jurisdiction of this church.</b></p> <p><b>“G-6.0703 Effect of Renunciation</b></p> <p><b>“The renunciation shall be reported by the clerk or stated clerk at the next meeting of the governing body, which shall record the renunciation, delete the officer's name from the appropriate roll, and take such other actions of an administrative character as may be required by the Constitution.</b></p>
<p><b>G-9.0405 Manual Of Operations</b></p> <p>Each governing body above the session shall, in consultation with the governing body above and below it, develop a manual of administrative operations.</p>	<p><b>“G-9.0405 Manual Of Operations</b></p> <p><b>“Each governing body above the session shall, in consultation with the governing body above and below it, develop a manual of administrative operations. In order to provide effective guidance in the ordination, certification, commissioning, and oversight of the work of ministry, the General Assembly shall offer, through its appropriate agencies, advisory handbooks containing suggested models for procedure that synods and presbyteries may adopt for their own use or modify to fit local circumstances. These handbooks shall be developed and updated as needed by the appropriate General Assembly agencies, in consultation with the Office of the General Assembly and middle governing bodies, to ensure conformity with the Book of Order and practicality of use.”</b></p>
<p><b>G-11.0414 Release from the Exercise of Ordained Office</b></p> <p>a. If a minister, elder, or deacon against whom no inquiry has been initiated pursuant to D-10.0101 and D-10.0201, against whom no charges have been filed, and who otherwise is in good standing, shall make application to the governing body in which he or she holds membership to be released from the exercise of the ordained office, the</p>	<p><b>“G-6.0600 Release from the Exercise of Ordained Office</b></p> <p><b>“a. If a minister, elder, or deacon against whom no inquiry has been initiated pursuant to D-10.0101 and D-10.0201, against whom no charges have been filed, and who otherwise is in good standing, shall make application to the governing body in which he or she holds membership to be released from the exercise of the ordained office, the governing body, upon</b></p>

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<p>governing body, upon granting the release, shall delete that person’s name from the appropriate roll. No judgment or failure on the part of the officer is implied in this action.</p> <p>b. Release from the exercise of the ordained office of minister, elder, or deacon requires a discontinuance of all functions of that office. The designation of minister, elder, or deacon shall not be used. The status of a minister, elder, or deacon so released shall be the same as any church member.</p> <p>c. A person released under this section who desires to be restored to the ordained office shall make application to the governing body that granted the release, or to the presbytery if the church has been dissolved, and upon approval of that governing body, the person shall be restored to the exercise of the ordained office without reordination.”</p>	<p><b>granting the release, shall delete that person’s name from the appropriate roll. No judgment or failure on the part of the officer is implied in this action.</b></p> <p><b>“b. Release from the exercise of the ordained office of minister, elder, or deacon requires a discontinuance of all functions of that office. The designation of minister, elder, or deacon shall not be used. The status of a minister, elder, or deacon so released shall be the same as any church member.</b></p> <p><b>“c. A person released under this section who desires to be restored to the ordained office shall make application to the governing body that granted the release, or to the presbytery if the church has been dissolved, and upon approval of that governing body, the person shall be restored to the exercise of the ordained office without reordination.”</b></p>
<p><b>G-11.0504 Synod and General Assembly Agencies</b></p> <p>The presbytery’s committee on ministry may look to synod and the General Assembly for information and assistance in the matter of ministers and pastoral relations. Synods shall create the necessary agency to coordinate the work of presbytery committees. The General Assembly shall create the necessary agency to facilitate and support the work of the presbyteries and the synods in this matter.</p>	<p><b>“G-11.0504 Synod and General Assembly Agencies</b></p> <p><b>“a. The presbytery’s committee on ministry may look to synod and the General Assembly for information and assistance in the matter of ministers and pastoral relations. Synods shall create the necessary agency to coordinate the work of presbytery committees. The General Assembly shall create the necessary agency to facilitate and support the work of the presbyteries and the synods in this matter.</b></p> <p><b>“b. The advisory handbook for committees on ministry developed by the appropriate General Assembly entity, in consultation with the Office of the General Assembly and middle governing bodies, shall provide guidance in the ordination, certification, commissioning, and oversight of the work of ministry through suggested models for procedures that synods and presbyteries may adopt for their own use or modify to establish their own requirements to fit local circumstances.”</b></p>

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<b>G-14.0100 1. Ordination for Church Office</b>	<b>“G-14.0100 Leadership in the Church</b>
<b>G-14.0101 Ordination</b> <p>The persons elected by the church to service in the offices of the church (G-6.0000) shall be ordained to these offices by the church. Ordination is the act by which the church sets apart persons to be presbyters (ministers of the Word and Sacrament or elders) or deacons, and is accompanied with prayer and the laying on of hands. Ordination to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament is an act of the presbytery. Ordination to the offices of elder and deacon is an act of the session, except in the case of the organization of a new church. (G-7.0202)</p>	<b>“G-14.0120 Ordained Ministry</b> <p><b>“Ordination is the act by which the church sets apart persons to be presbyters (ministers of the Word and Sacrament or elders) or deacons, and is accompanied with prayer and the laying on of hands. Ordination to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament is an act of the presbytery. Ordination to the offices of elder and deacon is an act of the session, except that when a new church is organized, the presbytery may examine, ordain, and install the officers. (G-7.0202)</b></p>
<b>G-14.0102 Commissioning</b> <p>Other persons called to perform special services in the church or in the world may be commissioned by the appropriate governing body of the church through a service of dedication.</p>	<b>“G-14.0140 Commissioned Ministry</b> <p><b>“In the life of the Christian community God calls people to particular acts of discipleship to use their personal gifts for service in the Church and in the world. These specific acts may be strengthened and confirmed by formal recognition and commissioning in worship. (W-4.3000)</b></p>
<b>G-14.0103 Servant Style</b> <p>The purpose and pattern of leadership in the church in all its forms of ministry shall be understood not in terms of power but of service, after the manner of the servant ministry of Jesus Christ.</p>	<b>“G-14.0110 Servant Style</b> <p><b>“The purpose and pattern of leadership in the church in all its forms of ministry shall be understood not in terms of power but of service, after the manner of the servant ministry of Jesus Christ.</b></p>
<b>G-14.0200 2. Electing and Ordaining Elders and Deacons</b>	<b>G-14.0200 Preparation for the Office of Elder and Deacon</b>
<b>G-14.0201 Election Provisions</b> <p>Every congregation shall elect men and women from among its active members, giving fair representation to persons of all ages and of all racial ethnic members and persons with disabilities who are members of that congregation, to the office of elder and to the office of deacon, or either of them, in the mode most approved and in use in that congregation, subject, however, to the following provisions:</p>	<b>“G-14.0220 Election Provisions</b> <b>“G-14.0221 Fair Representation</b> <p><b>“Every congregation shall elect men and women from among its active members, giving fair representation to persons of all ages and of all racial ethnic backgrounds and to persons with disabilities who are members of that congregation, to the office of elder and to the office of deacon (if used in the congregation).</b></p>

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<p><b>G-14.0201a. Terms</b></p> <p>No elder or deacon on a board of deacons shall be elected for a term of more than three years, nor shall an elder or deacon on a board of deacons serve for consecutive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than six years. An elder or deacon having served a total of six years shall be ineligible for reelection to the same board for a period of at least one year. A particular church may provide for a period of ineligibility after one full term. There shall always be no fewer than two and no more than three classes of elders in the session and no fewer than two and no more than three classes of deacons on the board of deacons if the congregation chooses to have deacons. The classes shall be as nearly equal in number as possible, of which only one shall expire each year. Terms shall ordinarily be for two years if there are two classes of elders and/or deacons, and for three years, if there are three classes of elders and/or deacons, except when it is necessary to elect some elders or deacons for shorter terms in order to equalize the numbers in the classes or to fill vacancies, provided, however, a congregation may by vote in a congregational meeting choose to elect one or more persons under twenty-five years of age to the office of elder or deacon, to serve on the session or board of deacons for a term of one, two, or three years. All other factors of election, ordination, and service shall apply to such elders or deacons. Terms of elders or deacons shall expire when their successors have been ordained and installed.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0222 Terms</b></p> <p><b>“An elder serving on session, or a deacon on a board of deacons, shall be elected for a term of no more than three years, and service in consecutive terms, either full or partial, shall be limited to six years. An elder or deacon having served a total of six years shall be ineligible for reelection to the same board for a period of at least one year. A particular church may provide for a period of ineligibility after one full term. Elders or deacons shall be elected in two or three classes as nearly equal in number as possible, of which only one shall expire each year. Terms of elders or deacons shall expire when their successors have been ordained and installed.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0201b. Nominations</b></p> <p>Nominations shall be made by a representative nominating committee of active members of the church, which shall itself include both women and men, giving fair representation to persons of all age groups and of all racial ethnic members and</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0223 Nominating Committee</b></p> <p><b>“Nominations shall be made by a representative nominating committee of active members of the church. The committee shall itself include both women and men, giving fair representation to persons of all age groups, of all racial ethnic members, and of persons with</b></p>

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<p>persons with disabilities who are members of that congregation. At least two members of this committee shall be elders designated by the session, one of whom shall be currently on the session and serve as moderator of the committee. At least one member of this committee shall be designated by and from the board of deacons, if the church has deacons. Other members of the committee, in sufficient number to constitute a majority thereof (exclusive of the pastor), shall be chosen by the congregation or by such organizations within the church as the congregation may designate, none of whom may be in active service on the session or in active service on the board of deacons. The pastor shall be a member of this committee, serving ex officio and without vote. The nominating committee shall be chosen annually and no member of the committee shall serve more than three years consecutively.</p>	<p><b>disabilities who are members of that congregation. At least two members of this committee shall be elders designated by the session, one of whom shall be currently on the session and serve as moderator of the committee. At least one member of this committee shall be designated by and from the board of deacons, if the church has deacons. Other members of the committee, in sufficient number to constitute a majority thereof (exclusive of the pastor), shall be chosen by the congregation or by such organizations within the church as the congregation may designate, none of whom may be in active service on the session or in active service on the board of deacons. The pastor shall be a member of this committee, serving ex officio and without vote.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0224 Elected Annually</b></p> <p><b>“The nominating committee shall be elected by the congregation annually and no member of the committee shall serve more than three years consecutively.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0201c. When a Small Church</b></p> <p>Any congregation of fewer than seventy members may choose, at a regular congregational meeting, to elect a small church nominating committee which shall consist of one member of the session, appointed by the session to be the moderator, and at least two members of the congregation not in active service on the session. The provisions of G-14.0201b, regarding fair representation, length of service on the committee, and membership of the pastor, shall apply.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0226 Exemptions for Certain Congregations</b></p> <p><b>“b. Any congregation of fewer than seventy members, at a regular congregational meeting, may request approval from the presbytery to elect a small church nominating committee, which shall consist of one member of the session, appointed by the session to be the moderator, and at least two members of the congregation not in active service on the session. The pastor shall be a member ex officio and without vote. Other provisions of fair representation and length of service continue to apply.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0201d. Principles</b></p> <p>All nominating procedures shall be subject to the principles of participation and representation as stated in G-4.0403 and G-9.0104.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0225 Nominating Procedures</b></p> <p><b>“All nominating procedures shall be subject to the principles of participation and representation as stated in G-4.0403 and G-9.0104.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0201e. Floor Nominations</b></p> <p>Full opportunity shall always be given to the congregation for nominations by any</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0232 Nominations from the Floor</b></p> <p><b>“Full opportunity shall always be given to the congregation for nominations by any active</b></p>

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active member of the church.	<b>member of the church present at the meeting. Persons to be nominated from the floor shall have given prior permission to be nominated and declared assent to serve if elected, or, if present, shall be asked to declare willingness to serve.</b>
<p><b>G-14.0202 Exemptions for Certain Congregations</b></p> <p>There may be exemptions for certain congregations as follows:</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0226 Exemptions for Certain Congregations</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery may approve requests by congregations for exemption from certain of these rules, subject to review periodically by the presbytery, which may grant or revoke its approval:</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0202a Fair Representation</b></p> <p>If in any church the nomination and election process results in the choice of elders or deacons that does not conform to the above requirement of the election of "men and women from among its active members, giving fair representation to persons of all ages and of all racial ethnic members and persons with disabilities who are members of that congregation" (G-14.0201), the church shall apply for a waiver of the requirements. Presbytery shall satisfy itself that effort is being made to move toward compliance. A three-fourths vote of the presbytery is required to grant exemption. Such exemption shall be granted for not more than three years at a time but shall be subject to renewal by a three-fourths vote and to revocation at any time by a majority vote.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0226a.</b></p> <p><b>When a particular church is unable to conform to the provisions of G-14.0221, it shall request of presbytery a waiver, stating the reasons for noncompliance and shall outline a plan for steps to compliance. Presbytery may grant the waiver of G-14.0221 by three-fourths vote and for not more than three years, subject to renewal by a three-fourths vote and to revocation by a majority vote.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0202b. Waiver</b></p> <p>If in any church it is impossible because of limited membership to provide for the rotation of terms, the congregation may request a waiver of the requirements of G-14.0201a. The presbytery may grant the exemption by majority vote. Such exemption shall be granted for not more than three years at a time but shall be subject to renewal or to revocation at any time by a majority vote.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0226c. If in any church it is impossible because of limited membership to provide for the rotation of terms, the congregation may request a waiver of the limitations on reelection after six years. The presbytery may grant the exemption by majority vote for three years at a time, subject to renewal or revocation at any time by majority vote.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0203 Office Is Perpetual</b></p> <p>The limitations placed by G-14.0201a,</p>	<p><b>G-14.0210 The Office of Elder or Deacon</b></p> <p><b>“The office of elder or deacon is perpetual</b></p>

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<p>upon the period for which elders or deacons may be elected and may serve, apply to active service on the session or board of deacons. In all other respects the office of elder or deacon is perpetual and no one can lay it aside at pleasure or be divested of it except as provided in the Rules of Discipline. Elders or deacons being once ordained are not divested of office by the circumstance of not being reelected to serve on the session or board of deacons of a particular church, or by ceasing to be a member of that church. Elders shall be entitled to represent in presbytery the particular church of which they are members if appointed by its session, and to serve as a member of the synod or the General Assembly when duly elected whether or not they are in active service on the session.</p>	<p><b>and no one can lay it aside at pleasure or be divested of it except as provided in this Form of Government or the Rules of Discipline. Elders or deacons are not divested of office when rotating out of active service on the session or board of deacons, or by ceasing to be a member of that church. Elders shall be entitled to be commissioners to presbytery from the particular church of which they are members if appointed by its session and to serve as a commissioner to the synod or the General Assembly when duly elected, whether or not they are in active service on the session.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0204 Congregational Meeting</b>  <b>G-14.0204a. Election</b></p> <p>The election of elders and deacons shall ordinarily take place at the annual meeting of the congregation called for that purpose by the session. (G-7.0302)</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0230 Congregational Meeting</b>  <b>“The election of elders and deacons shall take place at a meeting of the congregation called for that purpose by the session (G-7.0302).</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0204b. Nominating and Voting Requirements</b></p> <p>The moderator shall explain the purpose of the meeting and then put the question: "Are you now ready to proceed to the election of elders and deacons?" If the congregation is ready, the election may proceed. In every case, procedures must allow for nominations from the floor by any member present. When the number of nominees equals the number of elders and deacons to be elected, the congregation may vote by voice vote or show of hands. When the number of nominees is greater than the number of elders and deacons to be elected, the congregation shall vote by secret ballot. A majority of all the voters present and voting shall be required to elect.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0231 Purpose of the Meeting</b>  <b>“The moderator shall explain the purpose of the meeting.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0232 Nominations from the Floor</b>  <b>“Full opportunity shall always be given to the congregation for nominations by any active member of the church present at the meeting. Persons to be nominated from the floor shall have given prior permission to be nominated and declared assent to serve if elected, or, if present, shall be asked to declare willingness to serve.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0233 Ballots</b>  <b>“When the number of nominees equals the number of elders and deacons to be elected, the congregation may vote by voice vote or show of hands. When the number of nominees</b></p>

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	<p>is greater than the number of elders and deacons to be elected, the congregation shall vote by secret ballot. A majority of all the voters present and voting shall be required to elect.</p>
<p><b>G-14.0205 Preparation for Office</b></p> <p>When persons have been elected to the office of elder or deacon, the session shall confer with them as to their willingness to undertake the office. The minutes of session shall record the completion of a period of study and preparation, after which the session shall examine them as to their personal faith; knowledge of the doctrine, government, and discipline contained in the Constitution of the church; and the duties of the office. If the examination is approved, the session shall appoint a day for the service of ordination and installation. If the examination is not approved for one or more elected officers, the session shall report its action to the congregation's nominating committee, which shall bring nomination(s) to a special meeting of the congregation for any office(s) not filled.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0240 Preparation and Examination for Office</b></p> <p>“When persons have been elected to the office of elder or deacon, the session shall confer with them as to their willingness to undertake the office. The session shall provide for a period of study and preparation, after which the session shall examine the officers-elect as to their personal faith; knowledge of the doctrine, government, and discipline contained in the Constitution of the church; and the duties of the office. If the examination is approved, the session shall appoint a day for the service of ordination and installation (see W-4.4000). If the examination is not approved for one or more elected officers, the session shall report its action to the congregation’s nominating committee, which shall bring nomination(s) to a meeting of the congregation for any office(s) not filled.</p>
<p><b>G-14.0206 Service of Ordination and Installation</b></p> <p>The service of ordination and installation shall focus upon Christ and the joy and responsibility of serving him through the mission and ministry of the church, and shall include a sermon appropriate to the occasion. The minister presiding shall state briefly the nature of the offices of elder and deacon.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0300 Ordination as Officers of the Church</b></p> <p><b>Ordination, installation, and commissioning questions and service information are found at W-4.4000.</b></p> <p><b>[Resulting from Amendment 06-B.1.]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0207 Constitutional Questions to Officers</b></p> <p>The minister shall ask those preparing to be ordained or installed to stand before the congregation and to answer the following questions:</p> <p>a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4003 Constitutional Questions to Officers and Commissioned Persons</b></p> <p><b>“The moderator of the governing body of those to be ordained, installed, or commissioned shall ask them to stand before the-body of membership and to answer the following questions:</b></p> <p><b>“a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one</b></p>

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<p>b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?</p> <p>c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?</p> <p>d. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?</p> <p>e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?</p> <p>f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?</p> <p>g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?</p> <p>h. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?</p> <p>i. (For elder) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?</p> <p>j. (For deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus</p>	<p><b><i>God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“d. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“e. Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Word and Spirit?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“h. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“i. (1) (For elder) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?”</i></b></p> <p><b><i>“(2) (For deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people’s help to the friendless</i></b></p>

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Christ?	and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
<p>G-14.0208 Constitutional Questions to Congregation</p> <p>The elders- and deacons-elect having answered in the affirmative, an elder shall stand with them before the congregation and shall ask the congregation to answer the following questions:</p> <p>a. Do we, the members of the church, accept (names) _____ as elders or deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?</p> <p>b. Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4004 Ordination or Installation of Elders or Deacons</b></p> <p><b>“At the service of ordination or installation of elders and deacons:</b></p> <p><b>“W-4.4004a Questions to Congregation</b></p> <p><b>“a. The elders- and deacons-elect having answered in the affirmative, an elder shall stand with them before the congregation and shall ask the congregation to answer the following questions:</b></p> <p><b>“(1) Do we, the members of the church, accept (names) _____ as elders or deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?</b></p> <p><b>“(2) Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?</b></p>
<p>G-14.0209 Prayer and Laying on of Hands</p> <p>G-14.0209a. Prayer</p> <p>The members of the church having answered these questions in the affirmative, those to be ordained shall kneel, if able, for prayer and the laying on of hands by the session. Those previously ordained ordinarily shall stand, along with the congregation, if able, for the prayer of installation. The session may invite other elders and ministers of the Word and Sacrament to participate in the laying on of hands.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4004b Prayer and Laying on of Hands</b></p> <p><b>“b. The members of the church having answered these questions in the affirmative, those to be ordained shall kneel, if able, for prayer and the laying on of hands by the session. Those previously ordained ordinarily shall stand, along with the congregation, if able, for the prayer of installation. The session may invite other elders and ministers of the Word and Sacrament to participate in the laying on of hands.</b></p>

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<p>G-14.0209b.      Statement</p> <p>The moderator shall say to those who have thus been ordained and installed:  <b>You are now elders and deacons in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.</b></p>	<p><b>“W-4.4004c.      Statement</b></p> <p><b>“c. The moderator shall say to those who have thus been ordained and installed:</b></p> <p><b>“You are now elders and deacons in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0209c.      Session Welcomes</b></p> <p>Then the members of the session, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the newly ordained and installed, or newly installed, elders and deacons into their fellowship in ministry.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4004d      Session Welcomes</b></p> <p><b>“d. Then the members of the session, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the newly ordained and installed, or newly installed, elders and deacons into their fellowship in ministry.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0209d.      Congregation Greets</b></p> <p>After the service, it is appropriate for the members of the congregation to greet their new elders and deacons, showing affection and support.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4004e      Congregation Greets</b></p> <p><b>“e. After the service, it is appropriate for the members of the congregation to greet their new elders and deacons, showing affection and support.</b></p>
<p>G-14.0210 Dissolution of Relationship</p> <p>An elder or deacon may resign from the session or board of deacons for good cause, with the session's consent. On ceasing to be an active member of a particular church, an elder or deacon ceases to be a member of its session or board. When an elder or deacon, because of change of residence or disability, is unable to perform the duties of the office for a period of one year, the active relationship shall be dissolved by the session unless there is good reason not to do so, which reason should be recorded.</p>	<p>“G-6.0500 Dissolution of Relationship  <b>“An elder or deacon may resign from the session or board of deacons for good cause, with the session’s consent. On ceasing to be an active member of a particular church, an elder or deacon ceases to be a member of its session or board. When an elder or deacon, because of change of residence or disability, is unable to perform the duties of the office for a period of one year, the active relationship shall be dissolved by the session unless there is good reason not to do so, which reason shall be recorded.”</b></p>
<p>G-14.0211 Release from the Exercise of Ordained Office</p>	<p>“G-6.0600 Release from the Exercise of Ordained Office</p>
<p>G-14.0211a.      Application for Release</p> <p>If an elder or deacon against whom no inquiry has been initiated pursuant to D-</p>	<p><b>“G-6.0600a.      If a minister, elder, or deacon against whom no inquiry has been initiated</b></p>

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<p>10.0101 and D-10.0201, against whom no charges have been filed, and who otherwise is in good standing, shall make application to the session of the church in which he or she holds membership to be released from the exercise of the ordained office, the session, upon granting the release, shall delete that person's name from the appropriate roll of the church. No judgment or failure on the part of the elder or deacon is implied in this action.</p>	<p><b>pursuant to D-10.0101 and D-10.0201, against whom no charges have been filed, and who otherwise is in good standing, shall make application to the governing body in which he or she holds membership to be released from the exercise of the ordained office, the governing body, upon granting the release, shall delete that person's name from the appropriate roll. No judgment or failure on the part of the officer is implied in this action.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0211b.</b> Discontinuance of Function</p> <p>Release from the exercise of the ordained office of elder or deacon requires a discontinuance of all functions of that office. The designation of elder or deacon shall not be used. The status of an elder or deacon so released shall be the same as any church member.</p>	<p><b>“G-6.0600b. Release from the exercise of the ordained office of minister, elder, or deacon requires a discontinuance of all functions of that office. The designation of minister, elder, or deacon shall not be used. The status of a minister, elder, or deacon so released shall be the same as any church member.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0211c.</b> Desire to be Restored</p> <p>Should a person released under this section later desire to be restored to the ordained office, that person shall make application to the session that granted the release, and upon approval of that session, the person shall be restored to the exercise of the ordained office without reordination.</p>	<p><b>“G-6.0600c. A person released under this section who desires to be restored to the ordained office shall make application to the governing body that granted the release, or to the presbytery if the church has been dissolved, and upon approval of that governing body, the person shall be restored to the exercise of the ordained office without reordination.</b></p>
<p>G-14.0300 3. Preparation for the Office of Minister of the Word and Sacrament</p>	<p>G-14.0400 Preparation for the Office of Minister of the Word and Sacrament</p>
<p>G-14.0301 Presbytery Responsibility</p> <p>It is important that those who are to be ordained as ministers of the Word and Sacrament receive full preparation for their task under the direction of the committee on preparation for ministry. (G-9.0902) For this purpose, presbyteries shall enter into covenant relationship with those preparing to become ministers of the Word and Sacrament. This relationship shall be divided into the two phases of inquiry and</p>	<p>“G-14.0401 Presbytery Responsibility for Inquiry and Candidacy</p> <p><b>“It is important that those who are to be ordained as ministers of the Word and Sacrament receive full preparation for their task under the direction of the committee on preparation for ministry. (G-9.0902) For this purpose, presbyteries shall enter into covenant relationship with those preparing to become ministers of the Word and Sacrament. This relationship shall be divided into the two</b></p>

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candidacy.	<b>phases of inquiry and candidacy.</b>
<p>G-14.0302 Inquiry Defined</p> <p>The purpose of the inquiry phase is to provide an opportunity for the church and those who believe themselves called to ministry of the Word and Sacrament to explore that call together in such a way that the decision regarding the inquirer's suitability for ministry of the Word and Sacrament will be based on knowledge and experience of one another.</p>	<p>“G-14.0404 Inquiry Phase</p> <p><b>“The purpose of the inquiry phase is to provide an opportunity for the church and those who believe themselves called to ministry of the Word and Sacrament to explore that call together in such a way that the decision regarding the inquirer’s suitability for ministry of the Word and Sacrament will be based on knowledge and experience of one another.</b></p>
<p>G-14.0303 Inquiry Phase</p> <p>The process and requirement of the inquiry phase shall be as follows:</p> <p>a. A person desiring to become an inquirer shall indicate to the session of the particular church a desire to explore the personal implications of becoming a minister of the Word and Sacrament.</p> <p>b. The person shall have been an active member of that particular church for at least six months.</p> <p>c. The session shall contact the committee on preparation for ministry for orientation to the process used in that presbytery.</p> <p>d. The session shall consult with the person and, if the individual requests to be enrolled as an inquirer, shall make a recommendation to presbytery through the stated clerk with respect to the request.</p> <p>e. Upon receipt of the recommendation of the session, the committee on preparation for ministry shall recommend to the presbytery whether to enroll the person as an inquirer. The committee on preparation for ministry shall interview the person before making its recommendation. The date of the presbytery's action to enroll shall be the beginning of the covenant relationship. This period shall be at least two years, at least one</p>	<p>“G-14.0402 Advisory Handbook</p> <p><b>The process and requirements for the inquiry and the candidacy phases shall be provided in an advisory handbook developed and updated as needed by the appropriate General Assembly agencies in consultation with the Office of the General Assembly, which the presbytery may adopt or modify to establish its own mandatory procedures. (G-9.0405)</b></p> <p>“G-14.0403 Time Requirements</p> <p><b>“An inquirer shall have been a member of the sponsoring congregation for at least six months prior to the inquirer phase. The inquirer and candidacy phases shall continue for a period of no less than two years, including at least one year as a candidate.</b></p>

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<p>year of which shall be as a candidate, required in G-14.0401. (See G-14.0313c for exception.) A presbytery may assign to its committee on preparation for ministry the power to enroll inquirers, with the provision that the action be reported to the next stated meeting of the presbytery. (G-9.0403)</p> <p>f. The phase of inquiry shall be of sufficient length for the inquirer, the session, and the committee on preparation for ministry to decide whether the inquirer should apply to become a candidate. During this time, the committee on preparation for ministry shall make use of resources such as information provided by the inquirer, personal references, and reports from counseling services, the session, and the inquirer's institution of learning, if the inquirer is a student.</p> <p>g. By the end of the inquiry phase, each inquirer shall demonstrate adequate promise for ministry by presenting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) a statement of his or her understanding of Christian vocation in the Reformed tradition and how it relates to his or her sense of call;</li> <li>(2) a statement of personal faith which incorporates an understanding of the Reformed tradition;</li> <li>(3) an analysis of at least one concept from the personal faith statement regarding what it suggests about God, humanity, and their interrelationships;</li> <li>(4) a statement of what it means to be Presbyterian, indicating how that awareness grows out of participation in the life of a particular church;</li> <li>(5) a statement of self-understanding which reflects the inquirer's personal and cultural background and includes a concern for maintaining spiritual, physical, and mental health;</li> <li>(6) a statement of his or her</li> </ol>	

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<p>understanding of the task ministers of the Word and Sacrament perform, including an awareness of his or her specific gifts for ministry of the Word and Sacrament and of areas in which growth is needed.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0304 Candidacy Defined</b></p> <p>The purpose of the candidacy phase is to provide for the full preparation of persons to serve the church as ministers of the Word and Sacrament. This shall be accomplished through the guidance and evaluation of candidates, using learning contacts within the context of supportive relationships.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0405 Candidacy Phase</b></p> <p><b>“The purpose of the candidacy phase is to provide for the full preparation of persons to serve the church as ministers of the Word and Sacrament. This shall be accomplished through the guidance and evaluation of candidates, using learning contacts within the context of supportive relationships.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0305 Candidacy Process</b></p> <p>The process of the candidacy phase is as follows:</p> <p>a. An inquirer shall apply to the presbytery through the stated clerk to become a candidate for the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament through the session of his or her church.</p> <p>b. The session shall confer with the inquirer, review the evidence of the inquiry phase, and make recommendations to the presbytery through the stated clerk with respect to the application.</p> <p>c. The committee on preparation for ministry shall confer with the inquirer and review the evidence which indicates whether the inquirer is ready to proceed to candidacy.</p> <p>d. The committee on preparation for ministry shall make a definite recommendation to the presbytery with respect to whether the inquirer should be received as a candidate. Presbytery shall act on every committee recommendation regarding application for candidacy.</p> <p>e. The presbytery shall receive the report and recommendation of its committee and shall examine the inquirer in person with respect to his or her Christian faith, forms of</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0402 Advisory Handbook</b></p> <p><b>The process and requirements for the inquiry and the candidacy phases shall be provided in an advisory handbook developed and updated as needed by the appropriate General Assembly agencies in consultation with the Office of the General Assembly, which the presbytery may adopt or modify to establish its own mandatory procedures. (G-9.0405)</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0403 Time Requirements</b></p> <p><b>“An inquirer shall have been a member of the sponsoring congregation for at least six months prior to the inquirer phase. The inquirer and candidacy phases shall continue for a period of no less than two years, including at least one year as a candidate.</b></p>

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<p>Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.</p> <p>f. If the examination is approved, the presbytery shall receive the inquirer as a candidate after the following manner. The moderator shall propose the following questions to the inquirer:</p> <p>(1) Do you believe yourself to be called by God to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament?</p> <p>(2) Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?</p> <p>(3) Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?</p> <p>(4) Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a candidate for the ministry of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?</p> <p>g. If these questions are answered in the affirmative, a brief charge shall be given, the candidate's name shall be recorded on the presbytery's roll of candidates, and the proceedings shall close with prayer.</p> <p>h. A presbytery may provide, at the request of the candidate and his or her session, for the service of reception to be conducted by a commission of presbytery in the presence of the candidate's congregation.</p> <p>i. The phase of candidacy lasts until the candidate receives an approved call and is examined and ordained, or until the candidate's name is removed from the roll of candidates in accord with G-14.0312.</p> <p>j. By the end of the candidacy phase, each candidate to be ordained shall demonstrate readiness to begin ministry of the Word and Sacrament by</p> <p>(1) presenting evidence of</p>	

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<p>competence in the fields of theology, Bible, polity, and worship and Sacraments, ordinarily attested by completion of the requirements of G-14.0310; and evidence of ministerial skill attested in the supervised practice of ministry;</p> <p>(2) presenting evidence of readiness to participate in a calling presbytery's plan for transition and of plans for continuing study and growth (G-11.0103n and G-14.0506, last sentence);</p> <p>(3) expressing theological views compatible with the confessional documents of the church;</p> <p>(4) expressing understanding of the meaning of the questions required for ordination (G-14.0405) informed by knowledge of the church in diverse settings;</p> <p>(5) revealing commitment to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament within the discipline of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with personal maturity, spiritual depth, and a capacity to respond to the needs of others, including colleagues in ministry;</p> <p>(6) presenting a written sermon, together with a description of the contemporary need to which it was addressed and an exegetical interpretation of the biblical material out of which the sermon arose. This sermon shall be preached before the calling presbytery or a committee thereof as set forth in G-14.0402.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0306 Duties of Presbytery and Session</b></p> <p>The duties of the presbytery and of the session shall be as follows:</p> <p><b>a. Duties of Presbytery</b></p> <p>(1) The committee on preparation for ministry shall seek to instruct sessions on their role in the inquiry and candidacy process. Particular direction shall be given a</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0410 Duties of Presbytery and Session</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery, through a committee on preparation for ministry, shall seek to instruct sessions on their role in the inquiry and candidacy process. Particular direction shall be given a session that has endorsed an inquirer or candidate.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0411 Oversight</b></p> <p><b>“During the phases of inquiry and</b></p>

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<p>session which has endorsed an inquirer or candidate. This work could best be done by the committee on preparation for ministry.</p> <p>(2) During the phases of inquiry and candidacy the individual continues to be an active member of his or her particular church and subject to the concern and discipline of the session. In matters relating to preparation for ministry, the individual is under the oversight of the presbytery through the committee on preparation for ministry. It shall be the duty of the presbytery to exercise responsibility for the spiritual growth of inquirers and candidates, to support them with an understanding and sympathetic interest, and to give guidance in regard to courses of study, familiarity with the Bible and with the confessions, practical training and plans for education including the choice of institutions, field education, and the inquirer's or candidate's financial need. The presbytery shall also seek to give guidance and instruction to the inquirer or candidate in the faith and polity of the church. (G-6.0108)</p>	<p><b>candidacy, the individual continues to be an active member of his or her particular church and subject to the concern and discipline of the session. In matters relating to preparation for ministry, the individual is under the oversight of the presbytery through the committee on preparation for ministry.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0412 Presbytery Responsibility</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery shall exercise responsibility for the spiritual growth of inquirers and candidates, to support them with an understanding and sympathetic interest, and to give guidance in regard to courses of study, familiarity with the Bible and with the confessions, practical training and plans for education including the choice of institutions, field education, and the inquirer’s or candidate’s financial need. The presbytery shall also seek to give guidance and instruction to the inquirer or candidate in the faith and polity of the church (G-6.0108).</b></p>
<p><b>b. Support by Session</b></p> <p>The session shall function in a supportive role during the phases of inquiry and candidacy to ensure that care is provided on a continuous basis. The session shall appoint an elder from the church to be a liaison person with the inquirer or candidate and the appropriate presbytery committee. The session should consider the provision of financial support for the inquirer or candidate.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0413 Session Responsibility</b></p> <p><b>“The session shall function in a supportive role during the phases of inquiry and candidacy to ensure that care is provided on a continuous basis. The session shall appoint an elder from the church to be a liaison with the inquirer or candidate and the appropriate presbytery committee. The session should consider the provision of financial support for the inquirer or candidate.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0307 Service in Covenant Relationship</b></p> <p>The inquirer or candidate shall be encouraged to engage in some form of service to the church with the approval and under the guidance of the inquirer's or candidate's committee on preparation for ministry. Field education assignments that are under the supervision of a theological institution do not require presbytery</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0420 Service in Covenant Relationship</b></p> <p><b>“The committee on preparation for ministry shall monitor the covenant among presbytery and inquirers and candidates and the session. Inquirers and candidates shall be encouraged to engage in some form of supervised service to the church. The advisory handbook for committees on preparation for ministry shall provide guidance for</b></p>

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<p>approval; however, field education assignments that place an inquirer or candidate as the student intern having sole pastoral responsibility for the life of a church require the counsel and oversight of the committee on ministry having jurisdiction over the church. An inquirer or candidate shall not undertake to serve a church, even as a temporary supply, without the approval of the presbytery having jurisdiction over the church as well as the approval of the inquirer's or candidate's presbytery. Under no circumstances may an inquirer or candidate who has not been previously ordained as an elder, serve as moderator of a session, administer the Sacraments, or perform a marriage ceremony. A previously ordained elder who becomes an inquirer or candidate may be authorized to administer the Lord's Supper in accordance with G-6.0304 and G-11.0103z, but may not serve as a moderator of a session nor perform a marriage ceremony, except as may be provided in G-10.0103 and G-7.0306. A previously commissioned lay pastor who becomes an inquirer or candidate may continue to be authorized to administer sacraments in accordance with the presbytery's previous grant of authority under G-14.0801c.</p>	<p><b>supervision, evaluation, and reports on the service and preparation for ministry of inquirers and candidates. No inquirer or candidate who has not been previously ordained as an elder may serve as moderator of a session, administer the Sacraments, or perform a marriage service. An inquirer or candidate previously ordained as an elder may be authorized to administer the Lord's Supper. (See G-6.0304, G-7.0306, G-10.0103, G-11.0103z, and G-14.0562.)</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0308 Annual Report</b></p> <p>The presbytery shall require the inquirer or candidate to make an annual written report concerning progress in studies and service to the church, including a report from the individual's institution of learning.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0421 Annual Reports</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery shall require the inquirer or candidate to submit an annual written report on progress in studies and service to the church. The seminary or institution of theological education shall make an annual report on the progress of the inquirer or candidate toward preparation for ministry. The presbytery shall conduct an annual consultation for the evaluation and nurture of the inquirer or candidate. In no case shall an inquirer or candidate be excused from these annual consultations.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0309 Consultation and Guidance</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0309a. Annual Consultation</b></p>	<p>[see at G-14.0421 above]</p>

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<p>The committee on preparation for ministry shall provide for an annual consultation with each person on the rolls of inquirers and candidates. The purpose of the consultation shall be for the evaluation and nurture of inquirers and candidates. Such consultation may be held by the entire committee or may be carried out by persons appointed by the committee either from its own membership or with similar responsibilities in a presbytery within which the inquirer or candidate is pursuing a course of study or engaged in other approved service, except in the case of the final assessment, which should be conducted by the committee on preparation for ministry of the candidate's presbytery. Presbytery, together with the session and the inquirer or candidate, shall bear the necessary expenses of the annual consultation, which shall be concerned with the spiritual growth and needs of the individual, the financial planning for his or her educational program, and with his or her relation to the church and progress in the program of study leading to ordination for ministry. Each consultation shall include a decision, made by the whole committee, whether to continue or terminate the period of inquiry or candidacy. This decision shall be reported to presbytery.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0309b. Written Report</b></p> <p>There shall be a written report of each annual consultation, including a statement of the individual's strengths and areas of needed growth, prepared jointly by the committee or its representative and the inquirer or candidate. The presbytery shall be notified of receipt of these reports and the reports themselves shall be submitted to the individual, the sponsoring session, and the theological institution.</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0309c. Content</b></p> <p>The content of these annual consultations shall include, but need not be limited to, assessment of the inquirer's or candidate's</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>

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development in terms of the outcomes for the appropriate phase and the following in the appropriate years:	
<p><b>G-14.0309c.(1) Prior to Theological Education</b></p> <p>In the years prior to entering theological education, discussion of the inquirer's or candidate's preparation for theological education and for personal growth;</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0309c.(2) First Year Theological Education</b></p> <p>For annual consultations which cover the time period of the first year of theological education, a general assessment of her or his experience and the implications this has for her or his future professional ministry. The primary focus of this consultation(s) shall not be one of formal examination but of guidance and counseling with the inquirer and candidate. At this consultation(s) the student may ask the committee on preparation for ministry to present to the presbytery any request for an exemption from formal educational requirements of G-14.0310b(2) and G-14.0310b(3), such as language provisions. Should the presbytery be willing to make such an exception, the procedures of G-14.0313a shall be followed;</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0309c.(3) Second Year Theological Education</b></p> <p>For annual consultations which cover the time period of the second year of theological education, an assessment of the inquirer's or candidate's experience similar to that held in the previous year(s). In addition, the consultation(s) shall include a discussion with the individual on progress in preparation for ordination, including a preliminary statement of faith, a review of all grades, field education reports, and other appropriate evaluations. The presbytery also shall satisfy itself of the individual's thorough knowledge of the Bible. To this end, the presbytery shall accept a certificate of passing grade on the Bible Content examination of G-</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>

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<p>14.0310d(2). The committee on preparation for ministry and the inquirer or candidate shall discuss the means by which any deficiencies are to be removed.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0309d. Negotiation for Service</b></p> <p>In no case shall an inquirer or candidate be excused from these annual consultations. Prior to the completion of two full years of theological education or its equivalent, prior to that year's annual consultation, and prior to the successful completion of all ordination exams or to the presbytery's certification of readiness according to the provisions of G-14.0313b, no inquirer or candidate shall enter into negotiation with a church for his or her ministerial services except by a three-fourths vote of the members of presbytery present, with the reasons therefor recorded in the minutes of presbytery.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0440 Negotiation for Service</b></p> <p><b>“A candidate who has completed two full years of theological education or its equivalent, who has had an annual consultation within the previous year, and who has successfully completed all ordination examinations or has received presbytery’s certification of readiness according to G-14.0472 may, with approval of the committee on preparation for ministry (CPM) and the appropriate committee on ministry, enter into negotiation for his or her ministerial service. For candidates who have not yet completed the two years of theological education or successfully completed all ordination examinations, the presbytery of care may, by three-fourths vote, permit a candidate to proceed to negotiate for service prior to certification of readiness to receive a call.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310 Final Assessment</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0310a. Assess Readiness to Begin Ministry</b></p> <p>In the final year of theological education or when a candidate has satisfied the requirements of G-14.0310, and before a candidate may receive a call, the committee on preparation for ministry of the candidate's presbytery shall conduct a final assessment of the candidate's readiness to begin ministry. This consultation shall focus on the outcomes of inquiry (G-14.0303g) and candidacy (G-14.0305j) and shall include each of the requirements of certification set forth in G-14.0310. A summary of this assessment shall be reported to the presbytery and shall be transmitted to a calling presbytery when requested. When, in the opinion of the committee on preparation for ministry, a candidate is ready for examination for ordination, pending a call, it shall recommend to the presbytery that the</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0450 Final Assessment of Readiness to Begin Ordained Ministry</b></p> <p><b>“In the final year of theological education or when a candidate has satisfied all of the requirements of this section, and before the candidate has received a call, the committee on preparation for ministry of the candidate’s presbytery shall conduct a final assessment of the candidate’s readiness to begin ordained ministry. A summary of this assessment shall be reported to the presbytery and shall be transmitted to a calling presbytery when requested. The committee on preparation for ministry shall report to the presbytery when it has certified a candidate ready for examination for ordination, pending a call. This consultation shall focus on the outcomes of inquiry and candidacy and shall include each of the following requirements of certification:</b></p>

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<p>presbytery so certify the candidate. (See G-14.0507.) It may be given authority by the presbytery to certify candidates on behalf of the presbytery with the provision that all such actions shall be reported to the next stated meeting of the presbytery.</p> <p><b>G-14.0310b. Requirements to Be Certified Ready for Examination</b></p> <p>The candidate's presbytery shall require a candidate to fulfill the following requirements to be certified as to be ready for examination for ordination, pending a call:</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0310b.(1) Readiness</b></p> <p>demonstration of readiness to begin ministry of the Word and Sacrament as required in G-14.0305j;</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0450a. demonstration of readiness to begin ministry of the Word and Sacrament as required to fulfill the candidacy phase of preparation;</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310b.(2) Transcript</b></p> <p>presentation of a transcript showing satisfactory grades at a regionally accredited college or university, together with a diploma;</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0450b. presentation of a transcript showing satisfactory grades at a regionally accredited college or university, together with a diploma;</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310b.(3) Educational Requirements</b></p> <p>presentation of a transcript from a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery, the transcript showing satisfactory grades, and presentation of a plan to complete the theological degree including Hebrew and Greek and exegesis of the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek texts;</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0450c. presentation of a transcript from a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery, the transcript showing satisfactory grades, and presentation of a plan to complete the theological degree including Hebrew and Greek and exegesis of the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek texts;</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310b.(4) Examination Requirements</b></p> <p>presentation of satisfactory grades together with the examination papers in the five areas covered by the Presbyteries' Cooperative Committee on Examinations for Candidates.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0450d. presentation of satisfactory grades together with the examination papers in the five areas covered by the Presbyteries' Cooperative Committee on Examinations for Candidates.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310c. Bible Content Examination</b></p> <p>Inquirers or candidates are encouraged to take the Bible Content Examination in their first year of seminary. The other four examinations may be taken by inquirers or candidates after completion of two full years</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0430 Examinations</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0431 Five Ordination Exams</b></p> <p><b>“Inquirers or candidates are encouraged to take the Bible Content Examination in their</b></p>

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<p>of theological education. These four examinations shall only be taken upon approval by the committee on preparation for ministry of the inquirer's or candidate's presbytery.</p> <p><b>G-14.0310d. Areas of Examination</b></p> <p>The areas of these examinations are:</p>	<p><b>first year of seminary. The other four examinations may be taken by inquirers or candidates after completion of two full years of theological education. These four examinations shall only be taken upon approval by the committee on preparation for ministry of the inquirer's or candidate's presbytery. The areas of examinations are:</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310d.(1) Open Book Bible Exegesis.</b></p> <p>This examination shall assess the candidate's ability to find and state the meaning of an assigned passage of Scripture, demonstrating working knowledge of the original language of the text and ability to understand its historical situation.</p> <p>The candidate shall have access to any or all of the following:</p> <p>Hebrew and Greek texts, translations, commentaries, and other exegetical tools, including those which presuppose knowledge of the biblical languages. Using these, he or she shall be asked to state the meaning of the passage, show how he or she arrived at this interpretation, and suggest how this passage might be used in the contemporary life of the church.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0431b.</b></p> <p><b>“b. Open Book Bible Exegesis.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310d.(2) Bible Content.</b></p> <p>This examination shall assess the candidate's knowledge of the form and content of the Bible.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0431a</b></p> <p><b>“a. Bible Content.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310d.(3) Theological Competence.</b></p> <p>This examination shall assess the candidate's capacity to make effective use of the classical theological disciplines and of the confessional documents of the church in relating the gospel to the faith of the church in the contemporary world.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0431c.</b></p> <p><b>“c. Theological Competence.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310d.(4) Worship and Sacraments.</b></p> <p>This examination shall assess the candidate's understanding of the meaning and purpose of corporate worship and the Sacraments, familiarity with the Directory</p>	<p><b>G-14.0431d.</b></p> <p><b>“d. Worship and Sacraments.</b></p>

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for Worship and The Book of Confessions, and their application to the life of worshipping communities.	
<p><b>G-14.0310d.(5) Church Polity.</b></p> <p>This examination shall assess the candidate's working knowledge of the constitutional structure of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the method by which differences are properly resolved and programs to fulfill the mission of the church are determined.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0431e.</b></p> <p><b>“e. Church Polity.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0310e. How Graded</b></p> <p>The examinations required in the five specified areas shall be graded by representatives of the presbyteries under the supervision of the Presbyteries' Cooperative Committee on Examinations for Candidates as provided in G-11.0103m.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0432 Grading the Exams</b></p> <p><b>“The examinations required in the five specified areas shall be graded by representatives of the presbyteries under the supervision of the Presbyteries’ Cooperative Committee on Examinations for Candidates as provided in G-11.0103m. Descriptions of the examinations, the subjects, the schedule, and the procedures for their administration shall be prepared by the Presbyteries’ Cooperative Committee and approved by the General Assembly.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0311 Transfer of Covenant Relationship</b></p> <p>A presbytery may transfer the covenant relationship of an inquirer or candidate to another presbytery, but only with the approval of the receiving presbytery and the inquirer or candidate. An inquirer or candidate shall not transfer her or his membership to a particular church under the jurisdiction of another presbytery without the approval of the presbytery responsible for the person's preparation for ministry. Whenever a presbytery approves such a transfer, it shall send to the other presbytery a certificate of its approval, its records concerning the individual, and the reasons for the request for transfer. Failure of an inquirer or candidate to follow this procedure shall result in the forfeiture of standing as an inquirer or candidate. No presbytery may restore the</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0460 Transfer of or Removal from Covenant Relationship</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0461 Transfer of Relationship</b></p> <p><b>“A presbytery may transfer the covenant relationship of an inquirer or candidate to another presbytery, but only with the approval of the receiving presbytery and the inquirer or candidate. An inquirer or candidate shall not transfer her or his membership to a particular church under the jurisdiction of another presbytery without the approval of the presbytery responsible for the person’s preparation for ministry. Whenever a presbytery approves such a transfer, it shall send to the other presbytery a certificate of its approval, its records concerning the individual, and the reasons for the request for transfer. Failure of an inquirer or candidate to follow this procedure shall result in the forfeiture of standing as an inquirer or candidate. No presbytery may restore the</b></p>

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candidate's status except by beginning again under the provisions of G-14.0303.	candidate's status except by beginning again at the inquiry phase.
<p><b>G-14.0312 Removal from Covenant Relationship</b></p> <p>An inquirer or candidate may, after consultation with the session and the committee on preparation for ministry, withdraw from covenant relationship. Upon receiving such a request transmitted through the committee on preparation for ministry, the stated clerk shall remove the individual's name from the roll of inquirers or candidates and report the removal to presbytery. A presbytery may also, for sufficient reasons, remove an individual's name from the roll of inquirers or candidates, reporting this action and the reasons to the session, to the individual, and, if appropriate, to the educational institution in which the individual is enrolled. In both instances, prior to final action, the committee on preparation for ministry shall make a reasonable attempt to give the inquirer or candidate and other parties of interest an opportunity to be heard by that committee. The presbytery may arrange for the continued guidance and support of those who withdraw or are removed from the roll of inquirers or candidates.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0463 Removal from Relationship</b></p> <p><b>“An inquirer or candidate may, after consultation with the session and the committee on preparation for ministry, withdraw from covenant relationship. A presbytery may also, for sufficient reasons, remove an individual’s name from the roll of inquirers or candidates, reporting this action and the reasons to the session, to the individual, and, if appropriate, to the educational institution in which the individual is enrolled. In both instances, prior to final action, the committee on preparation for ministry shall make a reasonable attempt to give the inquirer or candidate and other parties of interest an opportunity to be heard by that committee.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0313 Extraordinary Circumstances</b></p> <p>All of the requirements of G-14.0310 shall be met except in the following extraordinary circumstances:</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0470 Extraordinary Circumstances</b></p> <p><b>“All of the requirements for final assessment shall be met except in the following extraordinary circumstances:</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0313a. Educational Requirements</b></p> <p>If the inquirer's or candidate's presbytery judges that there are good and sufficient reasons why certain of the educational requirements of G-14.0310b(2) or G-14.0310b(3) should not be met by an inquirer or candidate, it shall make an exception only by three-fourths vote of the members of presbytery present. A full account of the reasons for such an exception shall be included in the minutes of presbytery and</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0471 Educational Requirements</b></p> <p><b>“If the inquirer’s or candidate’s presbytery judges that there are good and sufficient reasons why certain of the educational requirements should not be met by an inquirer or candidate, it shall make an exception only by three-fourths vote of the members of presbytery present. A full account of the reasons for such an exception shall be included in the minutes of presbytery and shall be communicated to the presbytery to which the</b></p>

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<p>shall be communicated to the presbytery to which the inquirer or candidate may be transferred. (G-14.0311 and G-14.0314) The successful completion of the course of study specified in such an exception shall fulfill the requirements of G-14.0310b(2) or G-14.0310b(3).</p>	<p><b>inquirer or candidate may be transferred. The successful completion of the course of study specified in such an exception shall fulfill the requirements for the final assessment of readiness to begin ministry.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0313b. Examination Requirements</b></p> <p>The examination requirements of G-14.0310b(4) shall not be waived until an inquirer or candidate has failed on two attempts to receive a satisfactory grade, unless the inquirer or candidate has a disability, documented by a person or persons of the presbytery's choice, which disability affects the individual's test-taking ability. If the presbytery believes that the person should be certified as ready for examination for ordination, pending a call, it shall authorize an exception only by a three-fourths vote of the members of the presbytery present, and must determine an alternate means whereby it will satisfy itself of competence in the area(s) of difficulty. When the individual successfully completes the alternate pattern, the presbytery may certify readiness in the usual manner. The minutes of presbytery shall contain a full record of the reasons for the exception and the alternate pattern for determining competence. Presbyteries shall submit to the synod the process by which a candidate, who has failed one or more examinations twice, or who has such a documented disability, would be examined. Once that process has been approved, presbyteries may proceed with particular candidates, and note such exemptions in their minutes each occasion. Such processes will be reviewed every three years.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0472 Examination Requirements</b></p> <p><b>“The examination requirements of G-14.0431 shall not be waived until an inquirer or candidate has failed on two attempts to receive a satisfactory grade, unless the inquirer or candidate has a disability, documented by a person or persons of the presbytery’s choice, which disability affects the individual’s test-taking ability. If the presbytery believes that the person should be certified as ready for examination for ordination, pending a call, it shall authorize an exception only by a three-fourths vote of the members of the presbytery present, and must determine an alternate means whereby it will satisfy itself of competence in the area(s) of difficulty. When the individual successfully completes the alternate pattern, the presbytery may certify readiness in the usual manner. The minutes of presbytery shall contain a full record of the reasons for the exception and the alternate pattern for determining competence. <del>Presbyteries shall submit to the synod the process by which a candidate, who has failed one or more examinations twice, or who has such a documented disability, would be examined. Once that process has been approved, presbyteries may proceed with particular candidates, and note such exemptions in their minutes on each occasion. Such processes will be reviewed every three years.</del> [A result of Amendment 06-B.3.]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0313c. Time Requirements</b></p> <p>The time requirements of G-14.0303 shall not be waived unless the presbytery judges that there are good and sufficient reasons why the time requirement should not</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0473 Time Requirements</b></p> <p><b>“The time requirements of the inquiry phase shall not be waived unless the presbytery judges that there are good and sufficient reasons why the time requirement</b></p>

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<p>be met by an inquirer or candidate. It shall make an exception only by three-fourths vote of the members of the presbytery present. A full account of the reasons for such an exception shall be included in the minutes of presbytery and shall be communicated to the presbytery to which the inquirer or candidate may be transferred. (G-14.0311) Under no circumstances shall the time requirement be less than one year. (See G-14.0303e)</p>	<p><b>should not be met by an inquirer or candidate. It shall make an exception only by three-fourths vote of the members of the presbytery present. A full account of the reasons for such an exception shall be included in the minutes of presbytery and shall be communicated to the presbytery to which the inquirer or candidate may be transferred. Under no circumstances shall the time requirement be less than one year.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0313d. Confirmation of Action</b></p> <p>The foregoing exceptions shall hold if the presbytery has received the inquirer or candidate from another presbytery that approved the exemption of any of these requirements, the reception of the candidate having confirmed the action of the dismissing presbytery.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0474 If Transferred</b></p> <p><b>“The foregoing exceptions shall hold if the presbytery has received the inquirer or candidate from another presbytery that approved the exemption of any of these requirements, the reception of the candidate having confirmed the action of the dismissing presbytery.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0314 Location of Ordination</b></p>	
<p><b>G-14.0314a. Examination and Ordination</b></p> <p>The presbytery placing the call to a candidate for ministry shall ordinarily examine and, contingent upon the candidate's successful completion of that examination and all requirements in G-14.0402, the presbytery responsible for the candidate's preparation for ministry shall ordinarily ordain the candidate.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0481 Place of Examination and Ordination</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery placing the call to a candidate for ministry shall ordinarily examine and, contingent upon the candidate’s successful completion of that examination and all requirements in G-14.0450, the presbytery responsible for the candidate’s preparation for ministry shall ordinarily ordain the candidate.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0314b. Other Reformed Bodies</b></p> <p>When a candidate is called to work under the jurisdiction of some other Reformed body, he or she may be dismissed as a candidate by certification. Likewise, candidates may be received for this purpose from other Reformed bodies by transfer of certificate.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0462 Another Reformed Body</b></p> <p><b>“When a candidate is called to work under the jurisdiction of some other Reformed body, he or she may be dismissed as a candidate by certification. Likewise, candidates may be received for this purpose from other Reformed bodies by transfer of certificate.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0400 4. Ordination for the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0401 Ordination of Candidates</b></p> <p>Ordination for the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament is an act of the whole church carried out by the presbytery,</p>	<p><b>G-14.0480 Ordination an Act of the Whole Church</b></p> <p><b>“Ordination for the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament is an act of the whole church carried out by the presbytery, setting</b></p>

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<p>setting apart a person to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Such a person shall have been in covenant relationship with a presbytery or presbyteries for a period of at least two years including at least one year as a candidate (see G-14.0313c for exception), met the requirements of G-14.0310 together with the completion of the theological degree, and received a call for service to a church or other work in the mission of the church that is acceptable to the candidate and the presbytery.</p>	<p><b>apart a person to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament.</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0403 Time Requirements</b></p> <p><b>“An inquirer shall have been a member of the sponsoring congregation for at least six months prior to the inquirer phase. The inquirer and candidacy phases shall continue for a period of no less than two years, including at least one year as a candidate.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0402 Examination for Ordination</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0402a. Appearance before Presbytery</b>  <b>The candidate shall appear before the presbytery in which he or she shall make a brief statement of personal faith and of commitment to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament except as provided in G-14.0314. The presbytery, having received certification of a diploma from a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and acceptable to the presbytery, having heard the candidate and his or her sermon preached before the presbytery or a committee thereof (G-14.0305j(6)), and having received the recommendation of its responsible committee (G-11.0402), shall conduct any further examination of his or her Christian faith and views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the government of the church as it deems necessary.</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0402b. Vote to Proceed</b>  <b>If the presbytery is fully satisfied of the candidate's qualifications, it shall vote to proceed to his or her ordination, appointing a time and place for the service of ordination.</b></p>	<p><b>“G-14.0482 Examination for Ordination</b></p> <p><b>“The candidate shall appear before the presbytery and shall make a brief statement of personal faith and of commitment to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. The presbytery shall receive the report of its appropriate committee that the candidate has completed all requirements, and has been certified ready for ordination pending approval of the call. The report shall include a summary of waivers and exceptions of requirements granted. The presbytery may conduct further examination of the candidate’s Christian faith and views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the government of the church as it deems necessary. If the presbytery is fully satisfied of the candidate’s qualifications, it shall approve the call and vote to proceed to his or her ordination and installation.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0403 Extraordinary Circumstances</b></p>	<p><b>[see at G-14.0470 - .0474]</b></p>

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<p>The presbytery shall not omit any of the requirements for ordination except in the case of extraordinary circumstances as provided in G-14.0313.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0404 Place of Ordination, Installation</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0404a. Ordination In Presence of Congregation of Membership</b></p> <p>The ordination of candidates to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament shall ordinarily take place in the presence of the congregation in which the candidate is a member, and in the place for the regular worship of that congregation.</p> <p><b>G-14.0404b. Place of Installation</b></p> <p>A service of installation (G-14.0510) shall be held by the presbytery within whose bounds the candidate has been called to minister.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0483 Presbytery of Call</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery of call shall certify to the presbytery responsible for the candidate’s preparation for ministry that the candidate has been approved for ordination and installation. Ordinarily, the presbytery responsible for the candidate’s preparation for ministry shall ordain the candidate. (See W-4.4000.) Following the ordination, the stated clerk of the ordaining presbytery shall record the action, notify the session of the particular church of which the candidate has been a member so that the session may record the fact that the candidate is now ordained and has been transferred to the roll of the presbytery, and issue a letter of dismissal to the calling presbytery, which shall enroll the minister and proceed to install the minister.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0484 Agreement on Place of Ordination</b></p> <p>“The presbyteries and the candidate may agree that the ordination take place in the calling presbytery, in which case the presbytery may ordain and install the candidate at the same time at a service of worship in the presence of the calling congregation.</p>
<p><b>G-14.0405 Ordination Service</b></p>	<p><b>G-14.0300 Ordination as Officers of the Church</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0405a. Presbytery or Commission Convenes for Service</b></p> <p>The presbytery or commission appointed for this purpose shall convene and shall call the congregation to worship. The service shall focus upon Christ and the joy and responsibility of the mission and ministry of the church, and shall include a sermon appropriate to the occasion. The member named to preside shall state briefly the proceedings of the presbytery preparatory to</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0310 Service of Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning</b></p> <p><b>“Ordination, installation, and commissioning questions and service information may be found at W-4.4000.”</b></p>

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<p>the ordination and shall point out its nature and importance.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0405b. Constitutional Questions</b></p> <p>The member presiding shall then ask the candidate to answer the following questions:</p> <p>(1) Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?</p> <p>(2) Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?</p> <p>(3) Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4005 Ordination of Minister of the Word and Sacrament</b></p> <p><b>“At the service of ordination to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament</b></p> <p><b>“W-4.4005a Ordination Questions</b></p> <p><b>“a. The presbytery shall utilize the ordination questions laid out at W-4.4003, using these words for Question i.(3): Will you be a faithful minister, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?</b></p> <p><b>“W-4.4003 Constitutional Questions to Officers and Commissioned Persons</b></p> <p><b>“The moderator of the governing body of those to be ordained, installed, or commissioned shall ask them to stand before the-body of membership and to answer the following questions:</b></p> <p><b>“a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?</b></p> <p><b>“b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?</b></p> <p><b>“c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will</b></p>

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<p>confessions as you lead the people of God?</p> <p>(4) Will you be a minister of the Word and Sacrament in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and continually guided by our confessions?</p> <p>(5) Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?</p> <p>(6) Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?</p> <p>(7) Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?</p> <p>(8) Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?</p> <p>(9) Will you be a faithful minister, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith, and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies of the church; and in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?</p>	<p><b>you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?</b></p> <p><b>“d. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?</b></p> <p><b>“e. Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Word and Spirit?</b></p> <p><b>“f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?</b></p> <p><b>“g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?</b></p> <p><b>“h. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?</b></p> <p><b>“i.</b></p> <p><b>“(3) (For minister of the Word and Sacrament) Will you be a faithful minister, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0405c. Installation</b></p> <p>[This section was stricken by action of the 206th General Assembly (1994).]</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0405d. Prayer and Laying on of Hands</b></p> <p>The candidate, having answered the questions in the affirmative, shall kneel, if able, and the presbytery shall, with prayer and the laying on of hands, ordain the candidate to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament. The member presiding</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4005b Prayer and Laying on of Hands</b></p> <p><b>“b. The candidate, having answered the questions in the affirmative, shall kneel, if able, and the presbytery, or presbytery commission, shall, with prayer and the laying on of hands, ordain the candidate to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament. The</b></p>

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<p>shall then say:            (Name) _____, you are now ordained a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the church of Jesus Christ. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.</p>	<p><b>member presiding shall then say:</b>  <b>“(Name) _____, you are now ordained a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the church of Jesus Christ. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.”</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0405e. Welcome</b></p> <p>Then the members of the presbytery, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the new minister into the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. At the conclusion of the ordination service, the new minister may make a brief statement and shall pronounce the benediction.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4005 c. Presbytery Welcomes</b>  <b>“c. Then the members of the presbytery, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the new minister into the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. At the conclusion of the ordination service, the new minister may make a brief statement and shall pronounce the benediction.”</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0406 Ordination Recorded</b></p> <p>The presbytery shall record the ordination as a part of its official records along with the acceptance and subscription of the new minister to the obligations undertaken in the ordination vows. It shall also be the duty of the stated clerk of the presbytery to enroll the newly ordained minister as a member of the presbytery and to notify the session of the particular church of which the candidate has been a member, so that the session may record the fact that the candidate is now ordained and has been transferred to the roll of the presbytery.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0485 Recording the Ordination</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery shall record the ordination and installation as a part of its official records along with the acceptance and subscription of the new minister to the obligations undertaken in the ordination vows. It shall also be the duty of the stated clerk of the presbytery to enroll the newly ordained minister as a member of the presbytery and to report these actions to the Office of the General Assembly.</b></p> <p>[see also at G-14.0483]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0500 5. Calling and Installing Ministers of the Word and Sacrament</b></p>	<p><b>“G-14.0500 Pastoral Relations</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0501 Pastors, Co-Pastors, and Associate Pastors</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0501a. Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p>Every church should have the pastoral services of a minister of the Word and Sacrament. The pastoral relations which may exist between a particular church and a minister of the Word and Sacrament are permanent, designated, or temporary relations. The permanent pastoral relations are those of pastor, co-pastor, and associate</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0510 Installed Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0501 Installed or Temporary Relations</b></p> <p><b>“Every church should have the pastoral services of a minister of the Word and Sacrament. The pastoral relations that may exist between a particular church and a minister of the Word and Sacrament are installed (permanent or designated) or temporary relations (see G-14.0550).</b></p>

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<p>pastor. The only designated pastoral relationships are pastor, co-pastor, and associate pastor. The temporary relations are stated supply, organizing pastor, interim pastor, interim co-pastor, interim associate pastor, and temporary supply.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0501b. Pastor or Associate Pastor</b></p> <p>A pastor or associate pastor shall be elected by the vote of the congregation and the relationship between them shall be established by the presbytery. The call extended to a pastor or associate pastor shall be approved by the presbytery and cannot be changed except by consent of the presbytery, at the request of the pastor or associate pastor, or at the request of the church by action of the congregation.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0511 Permanent Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p><b>“A permanent pastoral relationship of pastor or associate pastor, full or part-time, is established by vote of the presbytery or its committee on ministry to approve the call to a minister of the Word and Sacrament elected by vote of the congregation. A pastor or associate pastor is installed by the presbytery and is a member of the session. The call approved by the presbytery cannot be changed or dissolved except by consent of the presbytery, at the request of the pastor or associate pastor, at the request of the church by action of the congregation, or when the presbytery, after consultation with the minister and the congregation, finds that the church’s mission under the Word imperatively demands it.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0501c. Co-Pastors</b></p> <p>Co-pastors are ministers who are called and installed with equal responsibility for pastoral ministry. Each shall be considered a pastor and they may share duties within the congregation as agreed upon by the session and approved by the presbytery. When a particular church has two pastors serving as co-pastors and the relationship of one of them is dissolved, the other remains as pastor of the church.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0512 Co-Pastors</b></p> <p><b>“A congregation may call more than one minister to serve as pastor or associate pastor, sharing duties within the congregation as agreed upon by the session and approved by the presbytery, using co-pastor or co-associate pastor or other suitable titles. When there are co-pastors, the presbytery, the ministers, and the session shall agree on a schedule for sharing the times each will moderate. When a particular church has two pastors serving as co-pastors and the relationship of one of them is dissolved, the other remains as pastor of the church.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0501d. Cannot Immediately Succeed the Pastor</b></p> <p>The official relationship of an associate pastor to a church is not dependent upon that</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0513 Succession and Extraordinary Circumstances</b></p> <p><b>“The official relationship of an associate pastor to a church is not dependent upon that</b></p>

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<p>of a pastor, but an associate pastor is not eligible to succeed immediately the pastor in a church which they have served together, nor may the associate pastor be called as pastor to serve as co-pastor of that church, except in churches which currently have a co-pastor model which has been in effect for at least three years and the congregation desires to continue such model. In such churches, an associate pastor may be called as pastor to serve as co-pastor of that church with a three-fourths affirmative vote of presbytery. The call to an associate pastor shall specify the particular functions to be fulfilled. An associate pastor shall be directed in his or her work by the pastor in consultation with the session.</p>	<p><b>of a pastor, but an associate pastor is not eligible to be the next installed pastor in a church that they have served together, or to be called as pastor to serve as co-pastor of that church, except in churches that currently have a co-pastor model in place which has been in effect for at least three years and the congregation desires to continue such a model. An associate pastor shall be directed in his or her work by the pastor in consultation with the session.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0501e. Designated Pastor</b></p> <p>A designated pastor, associate pastor, or co-pastor(s) is a minister of the Word and Sacrament approved by the committee on ministry to be elected for a term of not less than two years nor more than four years by the vote of the congregation. The relationship shall be established by the presbytery. Such a pastor, associate pastor, or co-pastor(s) shall be nominated by the congregation's pastor nominating committee only from among those designated by the committee on ministry of the presbytery. The congregation and the minister both must volunteer to be considered for a designated term relationship. Such a call may be established only with the prior concurrence of the committee on ministry of the presbytery. The terms of the call shall be approved by the presbytery. The minister shall be installed by the presbytery. When the minister is pastor, he or she shall be moderator of the session. The sections on calling and installing a pastor shall apply. (G-14.0502-.0507) (See G-14.0501a.) If there has been an open search process conducted by the committee on ministry and after two</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0520 Designated Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0521 Calling a Designated Pastor</b></p> <p><b>“A designated pastoral relationship, full or part-time, is a call to a minister of the Word and Sacrament established by the presbytery for a term of not less than two nor more than four years. The congregation and the minister must both have agreed to be considered for a designated relationship. The congregation’s pastoral nominating committee shall nominate to the congregation for its consideration and vote, only from among those ministers designated to it by the presbytery’s committee on ministry. The minister is installed by the presbytery and is a member of the session.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0522 Renewing or Ending the Call</b></p> <p><b>“The call approved by the presbytery is renewable anytime during the last six months of the term, and cannot be changed or dissolved except by consent of the presbytery, at the request of the pastor or at the request of the church by action of the congregation, when the presbytery, after consultation with the minister and the congregation finds that the church’s mission under the Word imperatively demands it, or when the term specified in the call expires without action having been taken</b></p>

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<p>years of the designated pastor relationship, upon the concurrence of the committee on ministry, the designated pastor, and the session, acting in place of the pastor nominating committee for the single purpose of calling the designated pastor as pastor, a congregational meeting may be held to call the designated pastor as pastor. The session, with the concurrence of the committee on ministry, may call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee to conduct a full pastoral search or to prosecute the call to the designated pastor to become pastor. The action of the congregation shall be reported to the presbytery. If the congregational action is affirmative, the presbytery, after voting to approve the new pastoral relationship, shall install the designated pastor as pastor.</p>	<p><b>to renew the call. The presbytery may designate and the congregation may call more than one minister to serve as designated pastor, sharing duties within the congregation as agreed upon by the session and approved by the presbytery. When there is more than one pastor, the ministers and the session shall agree on a schedule for sharing the times each will moderate.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0523 Designated Pastor to Pastor</b></p> <p><b>“If there has been an open search process conducted by the committee on ministry and after at least two years of the designated pastor relationship, upon the concurrence of the committee on ministry, the designated pastor, and the session, acting in place of the pastor nominating committee for the single purpose of calling the designated pastor as pastor, a congregational meeting may be held to call the designated pastor as pastor. The session, with the concurrence of the committee on ministry, may call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee to conduct a full pastoral search or to prosecute the call to the designated pastor to become pastor. The action of the congregation shall be reported to the presbytery. If the congregational action is affirmative, the presbytery, after voting to approve the new pastoral relationship, shall install the designated pastor as pastor.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0502a. Elect a Pastor Nominating Committee</b></p> <p>When a church is without a pastor, or after the effective date of the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, the congregation shall, with the guidance and permission of the committee on ministry, G-11.0502d, proceed to elect a pastor in the following manner. The session shall call a congregational meeting to elect a nominating committee, which shall be representative of the whole congregation. This committee's duty shall be to nominate a minister to the congregation for election as pastor. Public</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0530 Election of a Pastor or Associate Pastor</b></p> <p><b>“When a church is without a pastor, or has a vacancy in an associate pastor position, or after the effective date of the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, the congregation shall, with the guidance and permission of the committee on ministry (G-11.0502d), proceed to elect a pastor or associate pastor in the following manner.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0531 Pastor Nominating Committee</b></p> <p><b>“The session shall call a congregational</b></p>

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<p>notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting shall be given at least ten days in advance, which shall include two successive Sundays.</p>	<p><b>meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee, which shall be representative of the whole congregation. This committee’s duty shall be to nominate a minister to the congregation for election as pastor or associate pastor. Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting to elect the pastor nominating committee shall be given in accord with G-7.0303b.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0502b. Work of the Committee</b></p> <p>The nominating committee shall confer with the committee on ministry as provided in G-11.0502d and when seeking an associate or co-pastor, with the pastor or any continuing co-pastors. Care must be taken to consider candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, sex, marital status, age, or disabilities. When a church is considering extending a call to a minister of another denomination, the minister shall follow the procedures required in G-11.0400.</p> <p><b>G-14.0502c. Report of the Committee</b></p> <p>When the committee is ready to report, it shall notify the session, which shall call a congregational meeting, giving public notice as required in paragraph a. above, for the purpose of acting on the report of the nominating committee. The same procedure shall be followed in the selection of an associate pastor. The action of the congregation, if favorable, shall be presented to the presbytery for its concurrence. If the presbytery concurs, it shall make arrangements for the minister's installation. A call to a permanent pastoral relationship shall not be issued until it has been approved by the presbytery. (G-11.0502d)</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0532 Confer with Committee on Ministry</b></p> <p><b>“The pastor nominating committee shall confer with the committee on ministry as provided in G-11.0502d. When the committee is ready to report to the congregation, it shall notify the session, which shall call a congregational meeting in accord with G-7.0303b. The action of the congregation, if favorable, shall be presented to the presbytery for its concurrence.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0503 Congregational Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0503a. Convened for Election of Pastor</b></p> <p>When a congregation is convened for the election of a pastor (associate pastor), the</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>

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<p>moderator of the session appointed by presbytery or some other minister of the presbytery shall preside.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0503b. Vote by Ballot</b></p> <p>Following prayer for the guidance of God, the moderator shall call for the report of the nominating committee. Following the report, the moderator shall then put the question: "Are you ready to proceed to the election of a pastor (associate pastor)?" If they are ready the moderator shall declare the name submitted by the nominating committee to be in nomination. The vote shall be upon the question whether the congregation, under the will of God, shall call the person nominated to be its pastor (associate pastor), and it shall be taken by ballot. In every case a majority of the voters present and voting shall be required to elect.</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0504 Larger Parish</b></p> <p>When two or more churches established by presbytery as a larger parish unite in calling a pastor, the call must specify the support promised by each church. With the approval of presbytery, such a call may be issued by a larger parish council providing for the approval of the churches given in properly called meetings of their congregations, for payment of a total salary from a common parish treasury along with an explanation of the financial agreement between the churches of the parish, and for the annual review of the pastor's salary by the parish council with provision for a vote thereon by each congregation. When such a call has been issued by a parish council, and approved by the presbytery, each participating church shall be obligated to continue its financial support of the parish for the duration of the pastorate, unless excused by the other participating churches with the approval of the presbytery. The call shall specify that the minister is called to be pastor (associate pastor) of the churches constituting the parish.</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>

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<p><b>G-14.0505 Dissent</b></p> <p>On the election of a pastor (associate pastor), if it appears that a substantial minority of the voters are averse to the nominee who has received a majority of the votes, and that they cannot be persuaded to concur in the call, the moderator shall recommend to the majority that they not prosecute the call. If the congregation is nearly unanimous, or if the majority insist upon their right to call a pastor (associate pastor), the moderator shall forward the call to the presbytery, certifying the number of those who do not concur in the call and any other facts of importance. The moderator shall also inform the person being called of the nature and circumstances of the decision.</p>	<p>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0506 The Call</b></p>	
<p><b>G-14.0506a. Persons Elected to Sign the Call</b></p> <p>Persons shall be elected by the vote of the congregation to sign the call and to present and prosecute the call before the presbytery. The moderator of the meeting shall certify to the presbytery that those signing the call were properly elected and that the call was in all other respects prepared as constitutionally required.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0533 Signing the Call</b></p> <p><b>“Persons shall be elected by the vote of the congregation to sign the call and to present and prosecute the call before the presbytery. The moderator of the meeting shall certify to the presbytery that those signing the call were properly elected and that the call was in all other respects prepared as constitutionally required.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0506b Written Call</b></p> <p>(1) The written call shall specify the names of the minister; the congregation and the position, the work time (full-time or number of hours), vacation time, and the salary and housing costs to be paid as compensation for the minister's work. The call shall specify the date work is to begin.</p> <p>(2) The call shall provide for payment to the board responsible for benefits of a sum equal to the requisite percent of the minister's compensation, which may be fixed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for the minister's participation in the Benefits Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including both</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0534 Terms of the Call</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery shall ensure that the call meets the requirements of federal and state tax laws and fully discloses the compensation of the minister. If the minister is obligated to fulfill military commitments during a period of pastoral service, an agreement should be added to the terms of call for that obligation and potential mobilization. If the call is for less than full time, the precise terms of the contract should be indicated. The terms of call shall always provide for compensation that meets or exceeds any minimum requirements of the presbytery in effect when the call is made, and the congregation’s obligation to review the adequacy of the minister’s compensation and adjust the compensation to meet changes in the</b></p>

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<p>pension and medical coverage, or any successor plan approved by the General Assembly, during the time the minister continues in the pastoral relationship set forth in the call.</p> <p>(3) Provision for the reimbursement of professional business expenses, including moving and continuing education expenses, shall be listed separately from the minister's compensation in a manner consistent with government tax regulations. Unexpended funds allocated for business expenses shall remain the property of the congregation.</p> <p><b>G-14.0506c. Allowances and Amounts</b></p> <p>The call shall specify all and only those allowances and amounts which are undertaken as part of the call. If the minister is obligated to fulfill military commitments during a period of pastoral service, an agreement between the minister and the calling agency may be added to the terms of call for that obligation and potential mobilization of the minister, and become an element in the terms of call when approved by presbytery. If the call is for less than full time, the precise terms of the contract shall be indicated.</p>	<p><b>presbytery's requirements as amended from time to time. The call shall include participation in the Benefits Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including both pension and medical coverage, or any successor plan approved by the General Assembly.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0506d. Certification</b></p> <p>The certification by the moderator shall be as follows:</p> <p>Having moderated the congregational meeting which extended a call to (Name) _____ for ministerial services, I do certify that the call has been made in all respects according to the rules laid down in the Form of Government, and that the persons who signed the foregoing call were authorized to do so by vote of the _____ Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).</p>	<p><b>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</b></p>

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(Signed) _____ Moderator of the Meeting	
<p><b>G-14.0506e. Minimum Requirements</b></p> <p>The terms of the call shall always provide for compensation that meets or exceeds any minimum requirements of the presbytery in effect when the call is made and shall thereafter be adjusted annually as required to conform to such requirement. The presbytery may prepare a standard form for terms of call or adopt a model form provided by an agency of the General Assembly.</p>	[see at G-14.0534 above]
<p><b>G-14.0506f. Integration</b></p> <p>Every call to a candidate shall be accompanied by a description of the presbytery's plan for the integration of new ministers into the life and work of presbytery. (G-11.0103n)</p>	[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]
<p><b>G-14.0507 Call Presented and Received</b> <b>G-14.0507a. Presbytery Finds Call in Order</b></p> <p>If the presbytery finds the call in order and determines that it is for the good of the whole church, it shall inform the person being called of its decision and shall proceed to present the call through the presbytery having jurisdiction over the minister or candidate.</p>	[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]
<p><b>G-14.0507b. Call Through Own Presbytery</b></p> <p>No minister or candidate shall receive a call except through the hands of his or her own presbytery. When a church in one presbytery extends a call to a minister or candidate of another presbytery, the stated clerk of the calling presbytery shall transmit the call to the stated clerk of the other presbytery, with certification that the call has been found in order by the presbytery. The stated clerk of the minister's or candidate's presbytery shall deliver the call to the committee on ministry (G-11.0502b), which</p>	[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]

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<p>shall inform the presbytery of the receipt of the call and shall recommend to presbytery what action should be taken with respect to it. If the presbytery thinks it wise to release the minister from the present charge, it may present the call to her or him with permission to transfer to the presbytery having jurisdiction over the church, there to be examined and received. If the presbytery thinks it wise for the candidate to accept the call, it may present the call to her or him with the permission to be examined by the presbytery having jurisdiction over the church. If the examination is not sustained, the minister or candidate remains under the jurisdiction of his or her own presbytery. The presbyteries shall deal directly with each other through their stated clerks in certifying both the call of the church and the credentials of the minister or candidate.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0507c. Call, Delegation of Authority</b></p> <p>The authority for finding calls in order, for approving and presenting calls, for approving the examination of ministers transferring from other presbyteries required by G-11.0402, for dissolving the pastoral relationship in cases where the congregation and pastor concur, and for dismissing ministers to other presbyteries may be delegated by presbytery to its council or committee on ministry, with the provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of the presbytery. (G-9.0403, G-11.0103v, and G-11.0502h)</p>	<p>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0508 Call to a Minister of Another Denomination</b></p> <p>[This section was stricken by action of the 212th General Assembly (2000).]</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0509 Installation of Minister</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0509a. Call Is Presented</b></p> <p>When a call is presented to a minister or candidate, it shall be viewed as a sufficient petition from the congregation for his or her</p>	<p><b>G-14.0540</b></p> <p><b>“Ordination questions and installation service information may be found at W-4.4000.”</b></p>

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<p>installation.</p> <p><b>G-14.0509b. Acceptance of Call</b></p> <p>The acceptance of a call by a minister or candidate shall likewise be considered a request to be installed. The presbytery shall, therefore, appoint a time and place for the service of installation.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0510 Installation Service</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0510a. Presbytery or Commission Convenes</b></p> <p>On the day designated for the installation, the presbytery or commission appointed for this purpose shall convene and shall call the congregation gathered to worship. The service shall have the same focus and form as the service of ordination and the person being installed shall be asked to answer the questions asked at the time of ordination. (G-14.0405) Following the affirmative answers to the questions asked of the person being installed, an elder shall face the congregation along with the pastor-elect (associate pastor-elect) and shall ask them to answer the following questions:</p> <p>(1) Do we, the members of the church, accept (Name) _____ as our pastor (associate pastor), chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?</p> <p>(2) Do we agree to encourage him (her), to respect his (her) decisions, and to follow as he (she) guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?</p> <p>(3) Do we promise to pay him (her) fairly and provide for his (her) welfare as he (she) works among us; to stand by him (her) in trouble and share his (her) joys? Will we listen to the word he (she) preaches, welcome his (her) pastoral care, and honor his (her)</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4006a Installation Service</b></p> <p><b>“a. On the day designated for the installation, the presbytery or commission appointed for this purpose shall convene and shall call the congregation gathered to worship. The service shall have the same focus and form as the service of ordination and the person being installed shall be asked to answer the questions asked at the time of ordination.</b></p> <p><b>“W-4.4006b Questions for Congregation</b></p> <p><b>“b. Following the affirmative answers to the questions asked of the person being installed, an elder shall face the congregation along with the pastor-elect (associate pastor-elect) and shall ask them to answer the following questions:</b></p> <p><b>“(1) Do we, the members of the church, accept (Name) _____ as our pastor (associate pastor), chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?</b></p> <p><b>“(2) Do we agree to encourage him (her), to respect his (her) decisions, and to follow as he (she) guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?</b></p> <p><b>“(3) Do we promise to pay him (her) fairly and provide for his (her) welfare as he (she) works among us; to stand by him (her) in trouble and share his (her) joys? Will we listen to the word he (she) preaches, welcome his</b></p>

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<p>authority as he (she) seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord?</p>	<p>(her) pastoral care, and honor his (her) authority as he (she) seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord?</p>
<p><b>G-14.0510b. Prayer and Laying on of Hands</b></p> <p>The members of the congregation having answered these questions in the affirmative, a candidate being ordained and installed shall kneel, if able, and the presbytery shall, with prayer and the laying on of hands, ordain the candidate to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament and install him or her in the particular pastoral responsibility. A minister, previously ordained, who is being installed ordinarily shall stand, if able, for the prayer of installation.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4006c Installation of Minister</b></p> <p><b>“c. The members of the congregation having answered these questions in the affirmative,</b></p> <p><b>“(1) a candidate being ordained and installed shall kneel, if able, and the presbytery shall, with prayer and the laying on of hands, ordain the candidate to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament and install him or her in the particular pastoral responsibility.</b></p> <p><b>“(2) a minister, previously ordained, who is being installed ordinarily shall stand, if able, for the laying on of hands and the prayer of installation.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0510c. Statement</b></p> <p>The member presiding shall then say: (Name) _____, you are now a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.</p> <p>(For a minister previously ordained say only: You are now a minister of the Word and Sacrament in and for this congregation. Whatever you do, . . . etc.)</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4006d Statement to Minister</b></p> <p><b>“d. The member presiding shall then say:</b></p> <p><b>“(1) (For one being ordained and installed) (Name) _____, you are now a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.</b></p> <p><b>“(2) (For a minister previously ordained) (Name) _____, you are now a minister of the Word and Sacrament in and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0510d. Welcome</b></p> <p>Then the members of the presbytery, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the newly ordained and installed or newly installed minister into their fellowship in the ministry of the Word and Sacrament.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4006e Welcome</b></p> <p><b>“e. Then the members of the presbytery, and others as may be appropriate, shall welcome the newly ordained and installed or newly installed minister into their fellowship in the ministry of the Word and Sacrament.</b></p>

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<p><b>G-14.0510e. Brief Charges</b></p> <p>Persons invited by the presbytery may then give brief charges to the pastor (associate pastor) and to the congregation to be faithful in their relationship and in their reciprocal responsibilities.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4006f Charge</b></p> <p><b>“f. Persons invited by the presbytery may then give brief charges to the pastor (associate pastor) and to the congregation to be faithful in their relationship and in their reciprocal responsibilities.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0510f. Benediction</b></p> <p>At the conclusion of the service, the newly installed minister may make a brief statement and shall pronounce the benediction.</p>	<p><b>“W-4.4006g Benediction</b></p> <p><b>“g. At the conclusion of the service, the newly installed minister may make a brief statement and shall pronounce the benediction.”</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0510g. Record Service</b></p> <p>The presbytery shall duly record the service of installation.</p>	<p>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0511 Welcome</b></p> <p>After the installation service, the officers and members of the church should come forward to their pastor (associate pastor) and give him (her) an appropriate expression of cordial reception and affectionate regard.</p>	<p>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0512 More Than One Church</b></p> <p>The installation of a minister as pastor or associate pastor of more than one church may take place in a joint service, provided each church is present and answers for itself the constitutional questions set forth in G-14.0510.</p>	<p>[This would be covered in the advisory handbook]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0513 Temporary Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p>When a church does not have a pastor, or while the pastor is unable to perform her or his duties, the session should obtain the services of a minister of this denomination in a temporary pastoral relation. When a congregation employs more than one pastor, or a pastor and one or more associate pastors, and there is a vacancy in one of these positions, it may obtain the services of a minister in a temporary pastoral relation. No formal call shall be issued by the congregation and no formal installation shall take place. Temporary pastoral relations are those of stated supply, interim pastor, interim</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0550 Temporary Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p><b>“All temporary relationships of a minister of the Word and Sacrament, full-time or part-time, are established by the session or commission of the presbytery with the approval of the presbytery through its committee on ministry. These temporary relationships have titles appropriate to the ministerial tasks to which the minister is called, such as stated supply, temporary supply, organizing pastor, interim pastor, and others. A minister serving in a temporary pastoral relationship is called for a specified period not to exceed twelve months in length, which is renewable with the approval of the committee on ministry. A written agreement,</b></p>

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<p>co-pastor, interim associate pastor, temporary supply, or organizing pastor.</p>	<p><b>covenant, or terms of call signed by the minister, the clerk of session or presbytery commission, and a representative of the committee on ministry shall specify the pastoral functions, compensation, and any special skills or training required for the ministry. A temporary pastor is not installed and is not a member of the session. The presbytery shall appoint a moderator of the session who may be the temporary pastor.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0513a. Stated Supply</b></p> <p>A stated supply is a minister appointed by the presbytery, after consultation with the session, to perform the functions of a pastor in a church which is not seeking an installed pastor. The relation shall be established only by the presbytery and shall extend for a period not to exceed twelve months at a time. A stated supply shall not be reappointed until the presbytery, through its committee on ministry, has reviewed her or his effectiveness. A stated supply may, with presbytery's approval, serve as moderator of the session.</p>	<p>[see at G-14.0550 above]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0513b. Interim Pastor</b></p> <p>An interim pastor is a minister invited by the session of a church without an installed pastor to preach the Word, administer the Sacraments, and fulfill pastoral duties for a specified period not to exceed twelve months at a time, while the church is seeking a pastor. An interim co-pastor is a minister invited by the session of a church without an installed co-pastor which had a co-pastor model which was in effect for at least three years and where the congregation desires to continue such model of permanent ministerial relationship, to preach the Word, administer the Sacraments, and fulfill pastoral duties for a specified period not to exceed twelve months at a time, while the church is seeking a co-pastor. The session may not secure or dissolve a relationship with an interim pastor or interim co-pastor without the concurrence of the presbytery</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0553 Interim Pastoral Relations</b></p> <p><b>“When a presbytery and session determine that an interim pastor, interim co-pastor, or interim associate pastor is necessary and helpful, the session may consult the committee on ministry and seek an interim minister as soon as a date certain for departure has been announced by a pastor or associate pastor planning to leave. An interim pastor, interim co-pastor, or interim associate pastor is not eligible to serve that church as the next permanent or designated pastor.</b></p>

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<p>through its committee on ministry. A minister may not be called to be the next installed pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor of a church served as interim pastor or interim co-pastor.</p> <p><b>G-14.0513c. Interim Associate Pastor</b></p> <p>An interim associate pastor is a minister invited by the session to serve in this position while the church is seeking a new associate pastor. The session may not secure or dissolve a relationship with an interim associate pastor without the concurrence of the presbytery through its committee on ministry. An interim associate pastor shall serve for a period specified not to exceed twelve months at a time and may not be called to be the next installed pastor or associate pastor of a church served as interim associate pastor.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0513d. Temporary Supply</b></p> <p>A temporary supply may be a minister, a candidate, a commissioned lay pastor, or an elder secured by the session to conduct services when there is no pastor or the pastor is unable to perform pastoral duties. The session shall seek the counsel of presbytery through its committee on ministry before securing a temporary supply. A temporary supply may not be called to be a pastor or associate pastor of a church served as temporary supply, unless six months have elapsed since the end of the temporary supply relationship, except by a two-thirds vote of presbytery. A presbytery may choose to shorten or cancel the six-month interval if it is determined to be in the best interest of the congregation.</p> <p><b>G-14.0513e. Inquirer or Candidate as Temporary Supply</b></p> <p>When a church is without a pastor or when the pastor is unable to perform pastoral duties, the session, after obtaining the approval of the presbytery having</p>	<p>[see also at G-14.0550 above]</p> <p><b>“G-14.0551 May Not Become Next Installed Pastor</b></p> <p><b>“A minister serving in a temporary pastoral relationship other than organizing pastor is not eligible to serve that church in the next permanent or designated pastoral relationship. A presbytery may choose to allow a temporary supply to become the next installed pastor by a two-thirds vote of the presbytery.</b></p>

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<p>jurisdiction over the church through its committee on ministry, may secure the services of an inquirer or candidate to serve as temporary supply. Appropriate guidance and supervision for such an inquirer or candidate serving as temporary supply must be assured by the presbytery having jurisdiction over the church and approved by the inquirer's or candidate's committee on the preparation for ministry.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0513f. Organizing Pastor</b></p> <p>An organizing pastor is a minister or commissioned lay pastor appointed by the presbytery to serve as pastor to a group of people who are in the process of organizing a new Presbyterian church. An organizing pastor may be designated a member of the presbytery administrative staff and is to be hired in accordance with the principles of G-9.0702, G-9.0704, and G-4.0403. This relationship as organizing pastor shall terminate when the new church is formally organized by the presbytery. At that time the new church may, with the approval of the committee on ministry and the presbytery, call the organizing pastor to be its pastor without being required to elect a pastor nominating committee and conduct a pastoral search, or it may choose to elect a pastor nominating committee and conduct a full pastoral search as provided in the Form of Government.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0552 Organizing Pastors</b></p> <p><b>“An organizing pastor is a minister or commissioned lay pastor appointed by the presbytery to serve as pastor to a group of people who are in the process of organizing a new Presbyterian church. This relationship as organizing pastor shall terminate when the new church is formally organized by the presbytery. At that time the new church may, with the approval of the committee on ministry and the presbytery, call the organizing pastor to be its pastor without being required to elect a pastor nominating committee and conduct a pastoral search, or it may choose to elect a pastor nominating committee and conduct a full pastoral search as provided in the Form of Government.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0514 Ministers of Other Churches</b></p> <p>Ordained ministers of other Christian churches may be employed by the session of a particular church in a temporary pastoral relationship, provided that such ministers present to the presbytery credentials of good standing in the ecclesiastical body to which they belong, and provided that presbytery gives its approval to the temporary pastoral relationship.</p>	<p><b>“G-11.0405 Ministers of Other Churches</b></p> <p><b>“c. Ordained ministers of other Christian churches may be employed by the session of a particular church in a temporary pastoral relationship, provided that such ministers present to the presbytery credentials of good standing in the ecclesiastical body to which they belong, and provided that presbytery gives its approval to the temporary pastoral relationship.”</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0515 Parish Associate</b></p>	<p><b>G-14.0570 Parish Associate Relationship</b></p>

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<p><b>G-14.0515a. Minister in Validated Ministry Other than the Local Parish</b></p> <p>A parish associate is a minister who serves in some validated ministry other than the local parish, or is a member-at-large, or is retired, but who wishes to maintain a relationship with a particular church or churches in keeping with ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Such persons, already qualified as continuing members of presbytery, may serve as parish associates. The relation shall be established, upon nomination by the pastor, between the parish associate, the session, and the presbytery. The parish associate shall be responsible to the pastor, as head of staff, on an "as needed, as available" basis and with or without remuneration. A parish associate may not be called to be the next installed pastor or associate pastor of a church served as parish associate unless at least six months have elapsed since the end of the parish associate relationship.</p>	<p><b>“A parish associate is a minister who serves in some validated ministry other than the local parish, or is a member-at-large, or is retired, but who wishes to maintain a relationship with a particular church or churches in keeping with ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Such persons, already qualified as continuing members of presbytery, may serve as parish associates. The relation shall be established, upon nomination by the pastor, between the parish associate, the session, and the presbytery. The parish associate shall be responsible to the pastor, as head of staff, on an ‘as needed, as available’ basis and with or without remuneration.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0571 May Not Be Next Installed Pastor</b></p> <p><b>“A parish associate may not be called to be the next installed pastor or associate pastor of a church served as parish associate, unless at least six months have elapsed since the end of the parish associate relationship.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0515b. Designation Made Under Supervision of Committee on Ministry</b></p> <p>The designation of parish associate shall be made under the supervision of the committee on ministry at the request of the session of a particular church, the consent of the parish associate, and the approval of the presbytery. No formal call shall be involved. Any change in relationship must be approved by the presbytery. Ordinarily no more than one parish associate will be related to a particular church.</p> <p><b>G-14.0515c. Annual Review</b></p> <p>The committee on ministry shall review the designation once each year to insure</p> <p>(1) that the time and energy required as a parish associate will not interfere unduly</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0572 Presbytery Oversight</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery shall adopt policies and procedures for oversight by the committee on ministry of the parish associate relationships of its minister members and the churches under its care, including annual review.</b></p>

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<p>with the work of the person in his or her principal function;</p> <p>(2) that installed leadership of the particular church be protected in its effective functioning;</p> <p>(3) that the parish associate continue to meet the criteria for continuing membership in the presbytery based on other than this relationship to a particular church.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0515d. Termination of Relationship</b></p> <p>The agreement between the session, the parish associate, and the presbytery shall terminate when the call to the installed pastor is dissolved. The presbytery may dissolve the relationship with the parish associate upon the recommendation of the committee on ministry.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0573 Termination of the Relationship</b></p> <p><b>“The agreement between the session, the parish associate, and the presbytery shall terminate when the call to the installed pastor is dissolved. The presbytery may dissolve the relationship with the parish associate upon the recommendation of the committee on ministry.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0516 [This section was stricken and the text moved to G-14.0801 by the 208th General Assembly]</b></p>	
<p><b>G-14.0517 Validated Ministry: Call, Installation, Recognition</b></p>	<p><b>“G-11.0408 Validated Ministry</b></p> <p><b>“a. A minister of the Word and Sacrament who is an active member of presbytery may be engaged (1) in a validated ministry within congregations of this church, (2) in a validated ministry in other service of this church, (3) in a validated ministry in service beyond the jurisdiction of this church, or may be (4) honorably retired.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0517a. Call</b></p> <p>A call to a validated ministry in other service of this church (G-11.0410) or in service beyond the jurisdiction of the church (G-11.0411) shall ordinarily be in a form which includes a description of the goals and working relationships, financial terms, and the signatures of the minister, a representative of the presbytery, and where possible, a representative of the employing agency.</p>	<p><b>“G-11.0408b.</b></p> <p><b>“A call to a validated ministry in other service of this church (G-11.0410) or in service beyond the jurisdiction of the church (G-11.0411) shall ordinarily be in a form which includes a description of the goals and working relationships, financial terms, and the signatures of the minister, a representative of the presbytery, and where possible, a representative of the employing agency.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0517b. Service</b></p> <p>It is appropriate for presbytery to conduct a service of installation similar to that found in G-14.0510, or a service of recognition, at</p>	<p><b>“G-11.0408c.</b></p> <p><b>“It is appropriate for presbytery to conduct a service of installation similar to that found in G-14.0540, or a service of recognition,</b></p>

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the inauguration of this ministry.	at the inauguration of this ministry.
<b>G-14.0600 6. Dissolution of Pastoral Relationships</b>	<b>“G-14.0600 Dissolution of Installed Pastoral Relationships</b>
<p><b>G-14.0601 By Presbytery</b></p> <p>The pastoral relationship between a pastor, associate pastor, and a church may be dissolved only by presbytery. (See G-6.0202c)</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0610 Dissolved by Presbytery</b></p> <p><b>“The pastoral relationship between a pastor, associate pastor, and a church may be dissolved only by presbytery. Whether the minister or the church or the presbytery initiates proceedings for a dissolution of the relationship, there shall always be a meeting of the congregation to consider the matter and to request, or consent, or decline to consent to dissolution, as provided in G-7.0304a(3).</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0613 Presbytery Action</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery, through its committee on ministry or an administrative commission, may inquire into reported difficulties in a congregation and may dissolve the pastoral relationship if, after consultation with the minister, the session, and the congregation (G-7.0304a(3)), it finds the church’s mission under the Word imperatively demands it.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0602 Request by Minister</b></p> <p>The minister may request the presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship. The minister must also state her or his intention to the session. In the case of a pastor or associate pastor, the session shall call a congregational meeting to act upon the request and to make recommendations to presbytery. The presbytery may grant authority to its committee on ministry to dissolve the pastoral relationship and to inform the presbytery in cases in which the congregation and the pastor concur. If the congregation does not concur, the presbytery shall hear from the church, through the congregation's elected commissioners, the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the pastoral relationship. If the church fails to appear, or if its reasons for retaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the request of the minister may</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0611 Minister Requests</b></p> <p><b>“The minister may request the presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship. The minister must also state her or his intention to the session. The session shall call a congregational meeting to act upon the request and to make recommendations to presbytery. The presbytery may grant authority to its committee on ministry to dissolve the pastoral relationship and to inform the presbytery in cases in which the congregation and the pastor concur. If the congregation does not concur, the presbytery shall hear from the church, through the congregation’s elected commissioners, the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the pastoral relationship. If the church fails to appear, or if its reasons for retaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the request of the minister may be granted and the pastoral relationship dissolved.</b></p>

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<p>be granted and the pastoral relationship dissolved.</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0603 Request by Congregation</b></p> <p>If any church desires the pastoral relationship to be dissolved, a similar procedure shall be observed. A congregation, after a duly called congregational meeting, may request presbytery to dissolve its relationship with its pastor. The pastor shall moderate the congregational meeting (in accordance with G-7.0306) unless he or she deems it to be impractical. The presbytery may grant authority to its committee on ministry to dissolve the relationship and to inform the presbytery in cases in which the pastor and the congregation concur. If the pastor does not concur, the presbytery shall hear from him or her the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the relationship. If the pastor fails to appear, or if the reasons for maintaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the relationship may be dissolved.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0612 Congregation Requests</b></p> <p><b>“If any church desires the pastoral relationship to be dissolved, a similar procedure shall be observed. A congregation, after a duly called congregational meeting, may request presbytery to dissolve its relationship with its pastor. The pastor shall moderate the congregational meeting (in accordance with G-7.0306) unless he or she deems it to be impractical. The presbytery may grant authority to its committee on ministry to dissolve the relationship and to inform the presbytery in cases in which the pastor and the congregation concur. If the pastor does not concur, the presbytery shall hear from him or her the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the relationship. If the pastor fails to appear, or if the reasons for maintaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the relationship may be dissolved.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0604 [This section was stricken by the 200th General Assembly</b></p>	
<p><b>G-14.0605 Pastor Emeritus, Emerita</b></p> <p>When any pastor or associate pastor retires, and the congregation is moved by affection and gratitude to continue an association in an honorary relationship, it may, at a regularly called congregational meeting, elect him or her as pastor emeritus or emerita, with or without honorarium, but with no pastoral authority or duty. This action shall be taken only after consultation with the committee on ministry of the presbytery concerning the wisdom of this relationship for the peace of the church. This action shall be subject to the approval of presbytery, and may take effect upon the formal dissolution of the pastoral or associate pastoral relationship or anytime thereafter.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0620 Pastor Emeritus, Emerita</b></p> <p><b>“When any pastor or associate pastor retires, and the congregation is moved by affection and gratitude to continue an association in an honorary relationship, it may, at a regularly called congregational meeting, elect him or her as pastor emeritus or emerita, with or without honorarium, but with no pastoral authority or duty. This action shall be taken only after consultation with the committee on ministry of the presbytery concerning the wisdom of this relationship for the peace of the church. This action shall be subject to the approval of presbytery, and may take effect upon the formal dissolution of the pastoral or associate pastoral relationship or anytime thereafter.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0606 Officiate by Invitation Only</b></p> <p>Former pastors and associate pastors may</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0630 Officiate by Invitation Only</b></p> <p><b>“Former pastors, associate pastors, and</b></p>

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<p>officiate at services for members of a particular church, or at services within its properties, only upon invitation from the moderator of the session or, in case of the inability to contact the moderator, from the clerk of session.</p>	<p><b>ministers who do not have a pastoral relationship with the particular church as defined in this chapter may officiate at services for members of the church, or at services within its properties, only upon invitation from the moderator of the session or, in case of the inability to contact the moderator, from the clerk of session.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0607</b> [This section was stricken by the 200th General Assembly (1988).]</p>	
<p><b>G-14.0700</b> 7. Certified Christian Educator</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0130 Certified Ministry</b>  <b>“Persons called to particular service in the church may be certified by recognized agencies affiliated with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as having achieved proficiency in their field of expertise. The congregation and presbytery, in appropriate services, may recognize such certification. (See G-14.0700.)</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0701 Christian Educators</b></p> <p>a. Christian educators are persons called to and employed in the ministry of education in a particular church, churches, or governing bodies. Christian educators are persons who demonstrate their faith in and love for Jesus Christ, are dedicated to the life of faith and are serious in purpose, honest in character, and joyful in service.</p> <p>b. Christian educators serving particular congregations, with the session and pastor(s) share the responsibility of providing for the spiritual growth of members for their ministry as specified in G-6.0202-.0203 and G-10.0102. Christian educators will perform a variety of tasks including teaching the Bible, recommending curriculum materials and resources, training and supporting lay workers, and planning and administering the educational program of their congregations. Christian educators are accountable to the session and under the supervision of the pastor.</p> <p>c. Christian educators shall be persons with skills and training in biblical</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0710 Christian Educators</b>  <b>“Christian educators are persons called by God to a ministry of education who demonstrate their faith in and love for Jesus Christ, are dedicated to the life of faith and are serious in purpose, honest in character, and joyful in service. Christian educators serving particular congregations are accountable to the session and under the supervision of the pastor, sharing with them the responsibility of providing for the spiritual growth of members for their ministry, teaching the Bible, recommending curriculum materials and resources, training and supporting lay workers, planning and administering the educational program of their congregations, and other tasks.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0711 Training</b>  <b>“It is expected that Christian educators be persons with skills and training in biblical</b></p>

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<p>interpretation, Reformed theology, human development, religious educational theory and practice, and the polity, programs, and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Christian educators shall be encouraged by their session and presbytery to meet, or be prepared to meet, the certification requirements defined in G-14.0703.</p>	<p><b>interpretation, Reformed theology, human development, religious educational theory and practice, and the polity, programs, and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). They should be encouraged by their session and presbytery to meet, or prepare to meet, the accrediting requirements defined in this section.</b></p> <p><b><i>[This paragraph was added as a result of Amendment O6-F:]</i></b></p> <p><b>G-14.0732 Duty to Report</b></p> <p><b>Certified Christian educators and certified associate Christian educators shall report to ecclesiastical and civil legal authorities knowledge gained in the course of service to the church, of harm, or risk of harm, related to the physical abuse, neglect, and/or sexual molestation or abuse of a minor or an adult who lacks mental capacity when (1) such information is gained outside of privileged communication; or (2) he or she reasonably believes that there is risk of future physical harm or abuse.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0702 The Certified Christian Educator</b></p> <p>a. Certification is a means whereby the church recognizes the gifts, preparation, and effective service of those persons called to and employed in the ministry of education in the church.</p> <p>b. There are two levels at which educators are certified:</p> <p>(1) Certified Christian Educator, who has met the requirements of a MA degree or equivalent course of study and who has completed the certification process, and</p> <p>(2) Certified Associate Christian Educator, who has met the requirements of a BA degree or equivalent course of study and who has completed the certification process.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0720 Certification for Christian Educators</b></p> <p><b>In order to provide effective guidance for educational ministry in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the General Assembly shall offer a handbook containing the training and continuing education process for Christian Educators, which shall be administered and certification granted by the Educator Certification Council on behalf of the General Assembly Council. The handbook shall also provide suggested models for support and accountability that synods and presbyteries may adopt for their own use or modify to fit local circumstances.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0703 Certification</b></p> <p>The General Assembly shall provide an accrediting process which evaluates the</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0721 Accrediting Process</b></p> <p><b>“The handbook shall provide an accrediting process that evaluates the</b></p>

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<p>educator's academic preparation and work experience and examines competency in the following knowledge and skill areas:</p> <p>a. Biblical Interpretation. This examination shall assess the educator's ability to interpret Scripture using accepted exegetical processes and resources and to apply the Scripture in a contemporary teaching situation.</p> <p>b. Reformed Theology. This examination shall assess the educator's understanding of theology consistent with the confessional documents of the church, as expressed in educational theory and practice.</p> <p>c. Human Development. This examination shall assess the educator's understanding of the theories of human development and faith development and their application in the educational ministry of the church.</p> <p>d. Religious Education Theory and Practice. This examination shall assess the educator's ability to integrate religious educational theory and practice in the church's educational ministry.</p> <p>e. Polity. This examination shall assess the educator's working knowledge of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).</p> <p>f. Program and Mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This examination shall assess the educator's knowledge of the program and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the ability to interpret this program and mission in the educational ministry of the church.</p> <p>g. Worship and Sacraments. This examination shall assess the educator's knowledge of worship and the sacraments within the Reformed tradition, and the ability to interpret worship and the sacraments in the educational ministry of the church.</p>	<p><b>educator's academic preparation and work experience and examines competency in the following knowledge and skill areas:</b></p> <p><b>“Biblical Interpretation</b></p> <p><b>“Reformed Theology</b></p> <p><b>“Human Development</b></p> <p><b>“Religious Education Theory and Practice</b></p> <p><b>“Polity of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p><b>“Program and Mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p><b>“Worship and Sacraments</b></p>
<b>G-14.0704 Educator Certification</b>	<b>“G-14.0722 Educator Certification Council</b>

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<p><b>Council</b></p> <p>a. The accrediting process shall be administered by and certification granted by the Educator Certification Council on behalf of the General Assembly Council.</p> <p>b. The Educator Certification Council shall</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) establish certification standards;</li> <li>(2) designate Educator Certification Advisors in consultation with presbyteries;</li> <li>(3) evaluate certification examinations;</li> <li>(4) grant certificates and report to the General Assembly Council (through the National Ministries Division).</li> </ol>	<p><b>“The Educator Certification Council shall establish certification standards, designate Educator Certification Advisors in consultation with presbyteries, evaluate certification examinations, and grant certificates and report to the General Assembly Council.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0705 Presbytery</b></p> <p>a. The presbytery shall support the certification process by</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) encouraging educators to seek certification;</li> <li>(2) providing guidance through the Educator Certification Advisor;</li> <li>(3) encouraging sessions to make continuing education funds and time available to educators seeking certification.</li> </ol> <p>b. The presbytery shall provide the following support to the Certified Christian Educator and Certified Associate Christian Educator:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) service of recognition; (G-11.0103n)</li> <li>(2) minimum compensation and benefits requirements for Certified Christian Educators and guidelines for compensation and benefits for Certified Associate Christian Educators; (G-11.0103n)</li> <li>(3) access to the committee on ministry. (G-11.0503)</li> </ol> <p>c. The presbytery shall grant the privilege of the floor to the Certified</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0730 Presbytery and Certified Christian Educators</b></p> <p><b>“The presbytery shall</b></p> <p><b>“a. support the certification process by encouraging educators to seek certification, providing guidance through the Educator Certification Advisor, and encouraging sessions to make continuing education funds and time available to educators seeking certification;</b></p> <p><b>“b. provide the following support to the certified Christian educators: service of recognition that shall include the constitutional questions at W-4.4000 (G-11.0103n); establish minimum requirements for compensation and benefits (G-11.0103n); and access to the committee on ministry (G-11.0503); and</b></p> <p><b>“c. grant the privilege of the floor to the certified Christian educator at all its meetings with voice only, and, in the case of certified Christian educators who are ordained elders, voice and vote under the provisions of G-11.0101b. (G-11.0407)</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0731 Service of Recognition</b></p> <p><b>“When the presbytery is satisfied with the qualifications of an applicant for a certified</b></p>

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Christian Educator at all its meetings with voice. (G-11.0407)	education position in ministry in the church, a service of recognition shall be provided that shall include the constitutional questions (G-14.0300), using these words for Question i: Will you be a faithful certified Christian educator, teaching faith and caring for people, and will you in your ministry try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
<b>G-14.0800 8. Other Certified Employees</b>	<b>“G-14.0700 Persons Called to Certified Ministry</b>  [see also at G-14.0130 above and at G-14.0740 below]
<p><b>G-14.0801 Commissioned Lay Pastor</b></p> <p><b>G-14.0801a. Local Commission to Provide Pastoral Services</b></p> <p>The commissioned lay pastor is an elder of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), who is granted a local commission by the presbytery to lead worship and preach the gospel, watch over the people, and provide for their nurture and service. This commission is valid only in one or more congregations, new church development, or other validated ministries of the presbytery designated by the presbytery. Such an elder is selected by and receives training approved by the presbytery. The elder shall be instructed in Bible, Reformed Theology and Sacraments, Presbyterian Polity, preaching, leading worship, pastoral care, and teaching. The elder shall be examined by the appropriate committee of presbytery as to personal faith, motives for seeking the commission, and the areas of instruction mentioned previously. An elder who has been commissioned and later ceases to serve in a particular congregation may continue to be listed as available to serve, but is not authorized to perform the functions of a commissioned lay pastor again until appointed to a particular congregation by the presbytery.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0560 Commissioned Lay Pastor</b></p> <p><b>“The commissioned lay pastor is an elder of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), who is granted a local commission by the presbytery to lead worship and preach the gospel, watch over the people, and provide for their nurture and service. This commission is valid only in one or more congregations, new church development, or other validated ministries of the presbytery designated by the presbytery. Such an elder is selected by and receives training approved by the presbytery. The elder shall be instructed in Bible, Reformed Theology and Sacraments, Presbyterian Polity, preaching, leading worship, pastoral care, and teaching. The elder shall be examined by the appropriate committee of presbytery as to personal faith, motives for seeking the commission, and the areas of instruction mentioned previously. An elder who has been commissioned and later ceases to serve in a particular congregation may continue to be listed as available to serve, but is not authorized to perform the functions of a commissioned lay pastor again until appointed to a particular congregation by the presbytery.</b></p>
<b>G-14.0801b. Period Valid</b>  The commission shall be valid for a	<b>“G-14.0561 Period Valid</b>  <b>“The commission shall be valid for a period</b>

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<p>period up to three years as determined by the presbytery. It may be renewed at expiration or terminated at any time at the discretion of the presbytery. Presbytery shall regularly provide resources for the person's spiritual and intellectual development. A review of the work of the commissioned lay pastor shall be conducted annually. Presbytery shall revoke the commission of any lay pastor who does not abide by these provisions or whose work is evaluated as not adequate to meet the needs of the particular congregation or the presbytery.</p>	<p><b>up to three years as determined by the presbytery. It may be renewed at expiration or terminated at any time at the discretion of the presbytery. Presbytery shall regularly provide resources for the person's spiritual and intellectual development. A review of the work of the commissioned lay pastor shall be conducted annually. Presbytery shall revoke the commission of any lay pastor who does not abide by these provisions or whose work is evaluated as not adequate to meet the needs of the particular congregation or the presbytery.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0801c. Authorization to Perform Functions</b></p> <p>When a presbytery, in consultation with the session or other responsible committee, determines that its strategy for mission in a local church requires it, and after additional instruction deemed necessary by the presbytery has been provided, a presbytery may authorize a commissioned lay pastor to perform any or all of the following functions described in (1)--(6) below.</p> <p>(1) Administer the Lord's Supper.</p> <p>(2) Administer the Sacrament of Baptism.</p> <p>(3) Moderate the session of the congregation under the supervision of and when invited by the moderator of the session appointed by the presbytery.</p> <p>(4) Have a voice in meetings of presbytery.</p> <p>(5) Have a vote in meetings of the presbytery (such vote to be counted as an elder commissioner for purposes of parity).</p> <p>(6) Perform a service of Christian marriage when invited by the session or other responsible committee, and when allowed by the state.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0562 Authorization to Perform Functions</b></p> <p><b>“When a presbytery, in consultation with the session or other responsible committee, determines that its strategy for mission in a local church requires it, and after additional instruction deemed necessary by the presbytery has been provided, a presbytery may authorize a commissioned lay pastor to perform any or all of the following functions described in a.– e. below.</b></p> <p><b>“a. Administer the Lord’s Supper.</b></p> <p><b>“b. Administer the Sacrament of Baptism.</b></p> <p><b>“c. Moderate the session of the congregation under the supervision of and when invited by the moderator of the session appointed by the presbytery, or when appointed by presbytery as moderator.</b></p> <p><b>“d. Perform a service of Christian marriage when invited by the session or other responsible committee, and when allowed by the state.</b></p> <p><b>“e. Have a voice and vote in meetings of the presbytery (such vote to be counted as an elder commissioner for purposes of parity).</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0801d. Supervision</b></p> <p>The commissioned lay pastor shall work</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0564 Supervision</b></p> <p><b>“The commissioned lay pastor shall work</b></p>

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<p>under the supervision of the presbytery through the moderator of the session of the church being served or through the committee on ministry. A minister of the Word and Sacrament shall be assigned as a mentor and supervisor.</p>	<p><b>under the supervision of the presbytery through the moderator of the session of the church being served or through the committee on ministry. A minister of the Word and Sacrament shall be assigned as a mentor and supervisor.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0801e. Moderator of Session</b></p> <p>A presbytery, when it deems it to be in the best interest of the presbytery and the church involved, and when it deems that the lay pastor commissioned to that church is sufficiently trained in and loyal to Presbyterian polity, may appoint a lay pastor as moderator of session to the church to which she or he is commissioned. The person assigned to the commissioned lay pastor as mentor and supervisor shall also supervise his or her work as moderator.</p>	<p>[see at G-14.0562c. above]</p>
<p><b>G-14.0801f. Trust and Confidentiality</b></p> <p>In the exercise of pastoral care, commissioned lay pastors shall maintain a relationship of trust and confidentiality, and shall hold in confidence all information revealed to them in the course of providing such care and all information relating to the exercise of such care. When the person whose confidences are at issue gives express consent to reveal confidential information, then a commissioned lay pastor may, but cannot be compelled to, reveal confidential information. A commissioned lay pastor may reveal confidential information when she or he reasonably believes that there is risk of imminent bodily harm to any person.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0563 Pastoral Care and Confidentiality</b></p> <p><b>“Those serving as commissioned lay pastors shall be bound by the same standards of trust and confidentiality as ministers of the Word and Sacrament (G-6.0204).</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0801g. Questions Asked</b></p> <p>When the presbytery is satisfied with the qualifications of an applicant it shall ask the applicant the following questions:</p>	<p><b>G-14.0565 Questions Asked</b></p> <p><b>“Commissioning questions and service information may be found at W-4.4000.”</b></p> <p><b>“W-4.4003 Constitutional Questions to Officers and Commissioned Persons</b></p> <p><b>“The moderator of the governing body of those to be ordained, installed, or commissioned shall ask them to stand before the-body of membership and to answer the following questions:</b></p>

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<p>(1) Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?</p> <p>(2) Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?</p> <p>(3) Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?</p> <p>(4) Will you fulfill your commission in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?</p> <p>(5) Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?</p> <p>(6) Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?</p> <p>(7) Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?</p> <p>(8) Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?</p> <p>(9) Will you be a faithful commissioned lay pastor, watching over the people, providing for their worship? In your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? (G-14.0207)</p> <p><b>G-14.0801h. Prayer and Statement</b></p>	<p><b>"a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?"</b></p> <p><b>"b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?"</b></p> <p><b>"c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?"</b></p> <p><b>"d. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?"</b></p> <p><b>"e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?"</b></p> <p><b>"f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?"</b></p> <p><b>"g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?"</b></p> <p><b>"h. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?"</b></p> <p><b>"i.</b></p> <p><b>"(4) (For commissioned lay pastor) Will you be a faithful commissioned lay pastor, serving the people by proclaiming the good news, teaching faith and caring for the people, and in your ministry will you try to show</b></p>

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<p>The applicant having answered these questions in the affirmative, the moderator shall pray and say to the applicant:</p> <p>(Name) _____,</p> <p>you are now a lay pastor commissioned to lead worship and preach for the time and in the place set by this presbytery. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.</p>	<p><i>the love and justice of Jesus Christ?</i></p>
<p><b>G-14.0802 Other Certified Lay Employees</b></p> <p>a. Other certified lay employees have been called to service within particular churches, governing bodies, and church-related entities. These individuals endeavor to reflect their faith through their work and to strengthen the church through their dedication. To that end, groups of professionals have organized for community, support, and professional development. Several of these associations have entered into formal liaison relationships with General Assembly entities. These groups include the Administrative Personnel Association, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, and the Presbyterian Church Business Administrators Association.</p> <p>b. Members of the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) include secretaries, administrative assistants, bookkeepers and support staff in church-related settings. Certification is granted by APA; the requirements for certification are approved by the Division of National Ministries. Requirements include attendance at association conferences as well as a total of forty hours of instruction in polity, in Reformed theology, in church history, and in one's area of expertise.</p> <p>c. Members of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) include choir directors, organists, ministers, and other persons interested in the quality and integrity of music in the worship experience. Certification is granted by the association.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0740 Other Certified Persons</b></p> <p><b>“Other certified persons have been called to service within particular churches, governing bodies, and church-related entities. These individuals endeavor to reflect their faith through their work and to strengthen the church through their dedication.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0741 Organized Associations</b></p> <p><b>“To that end, groups of professionals have organized for community, support, and professional development. Several of these associations have entered into formal liaison relationships with General Assembly entities. These groups include the Administrative Personnel Association, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, and the Presbyterian Church Business Administrators Association and others.</b></p> <p><b>“G-14.0742 Certification</b></p> <p><b>“Certification is overseen and granted by the individual associations; the requirements for certification are reported to the appropriate body of the General Assembly Council.</b></p> <p><b>“a. Members of the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) include secretaries, administrative assistants, bookkeepers, and support staff in church-related settings.</b></p> <p><b>“b. Members of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) include choir directors, organists, ministers, and other</b></p>

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<p>Requirements include a Master of Music degree and additional courses in polity, Bible, worship, human faith and development, and music education. Those who earn certification are advised by a reference group and are examined for proficiency in the areas of study. This association has a liaison relationship with the Division of Congregational Ministries.</p> <p>d. Members of the Presbyterian Church Business Administrators Association include pastors and lay persons serving primarily as administrators in particular churches and church-related entities. Certification is granted by the association; requirements for certification are approved by the Division of National Ministries. These include attendance at two ten-day seminars and completion of an approved research project in church administration. Area of study in the seminars include: property management, finance and investments, personnel management, church history, theology, communication and information systems, legal/tax matters, stewardship, accounting, office procedures, polity, and other management skills.</p>	<p><b>persons interested in the quality and integrity of music in the worship experience.</b></p> <p><b>“c. Members of the Presbyterian Church Business Administrators Association include pastors and lay persons serving primarily as administrators in particular churches and church-related entities.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0803 Notification of Status</b></p> <p>Names of those who have earned certification through these associations shall be transmitted to the Office of Certification in the Division of National Ministries, who will forward them to the Office of the General Assembly and to the stated clerk of the presbyteries in which those persons labor.</p>	<p><b>“G-14.0743 Notification of Status</b></p> <p><b>“Names of those who have earned certification through these associations shall be transmitted to the appropriate body of the General Assembly Council, which will forward them to the Office of the General Assembly and to the stated clerk of the presbyteries in which those persons labor.</b></p>
<p><b>G-14.0804 Recognition by Presbytery</b></p> <p>The presbytery shall affirm the skill and dedication of these certified lay employees by providing for recognition at presbytery at the time of their certification and by inviting these employees to presbytery meetings, granting them the privilege of the floor.</p>	<p><b>G-14.0744 Recognition by Presbytery</b></p> <p><b>“a. The presbytery shall affirm the skill and dedication of these certified persons by providing for recognition at presbytery at the time of their certification, asking them the constitutional questions in W-4.4000, and by inviting these employees to presbytery meetings, granting them the privilege of the floor.”</b></p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“b. When the presbytery is satisfied with the qualifications of an applicant for a certified position in ministry in the church, a service of recognition shall be provided that shall include the constitutional questions (W-4.4000), using these words for Question i: Will you be a faithful Certified _____, teaching faith and caring for people, and will you in your ministry try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?”</b></p>