

PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY
Committee on Ministry

GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING MINISTERS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

1. A minister who has been ordained in a denomination other than the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and who seeks to become a member of this presbytery and wishes to have his/her ordination recognized for membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall submit a request in writing to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The clerk shall refer the request to the Committee on Ministry (COM) as soon as possible for appropriate action.
2. The COM shall appoint a task force to work with the applicant and to ascertain his/her reasons for seeking membership in the presbytery. One or more members of the task force may be members of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM).
3. The applicant shall make available to the task force written evidence of the basic requirements outlined in the Form of Government, G-11.0404, including the following:
 - a. Certificate of Ordination
 - b. written evidence of credentials and of good standing in the denomination in which the minister is serving;
 - c. a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university;
 - d. a theological degree from a seminary or theological school which has been accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States or Canada, or from an acceptable theological institution outside of the United States;
 - e. a call to an appropriate work in a church or related institution of this presbytery.
4. The task force shall meet with the applicant as soon as possible to review the credentials as outlined in section 3 above, and to explore the following:
 - a. the work history and church-related experience of the applicant;
 - b. his/her reasons for seeking membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);
 - c. his/her sense of call;
 - d. to determine whether the person is seeking membership as a minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

5. The task force shall conduct an examination of the applicant in the areas of Worship and Sacraments, Polity and Program, Theology and the Confessions, Biblical Exegesis and Preaching, and Bible Content. The examination will include the questions for ordination.
6. The applicant shall prepare a Statement of Faith to be presented to the task force and COM.
7. The task force will recommend to the COM appropriate action on the applicant's request to become a member of this presbytery.
8. When a minister seeking membership in the presbytery has completed his/her work with the assigned task force and has been approved by the COM, the minister shall present his/her Statement of Faith and will be examined by the presbytery.
9. The minister may be examined by the presbytery as to his/her sense of call, personal faith journey, understanding and views of ministry, and motivation for seeking membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
10. If the presbytery approves the request, the person shall then answer in the affirmative the questions of ordination, in accordance with **W-4.4003**.
11. Presbytery shall receive and welcome the minister in an appropriate fashion, recognizing the ordination of the minister.
12. Presbytery shall not waive any of the above requirements except by three-fourths vote of the presbytery (see G-14.0472).

Revised 3/98

Revised 3/10