

Commission for Church Professionals (CPC)

Purpose

To foster the faith and vitality of those who are called to professional ministry—pastors, associate pastors, designated pastors, interim pastors, honorably retired teaching elders, stated supply, temporary supply, teaching elders in specialized ministry, inquirers, candidates, commissioned ruling elders, certified Christian educators, and ministers at-large.

Responsibilities

- Guide, nurture and oversee the process of becoming a teaching elder, commissioned ruling elder or certified Christian educator [G-3.0307]
- Establish pastoral relationships: Ordain, receive, install and commission; dissolve pastoral relationships; dismiss, remove, and discipline [G-3.0307]
- Encourage and support congregations and campus ministry in vocational discernment
- Support, nurture, and strengthen those serving in pastoral ministry in our congregations.
- Identify and respond to situations in which pastors are experiencing extraordinary stress
- Validate specialized ministries and maintain connections [G-3.0306]
- Assess and respond to situations in which the pastoral relationship is at risk
- Support campus ministry in the work of vocational ministry
- Define, plan, and implement training for commission members and sub groups
- Guide, nurture and oversee the process of preparing and becoming a teaching elder [G-3.0301a, G-3.0307]
- Establish and dissolve pastoral relationships [G-3.0301a]
- Exercise pastoral care for members of the presbytery [G-3.0301b, G-3.0307]
- Authorize and train specific ruling elders [G-3.0301b]
- Ordain, receive, dismiss, install, remove and discipline teaching elders [G-3.0301c]
- Commission ruling elders [G-3.0301c]
- Establish minimum compensation standards for pastoral calls and certified Christian educators [G-3.0303c]
- Examine each teaching elder or candidate who seeks membership [G-3.0306]
- Determine the teaching elders who are its members and validate the ministries in which they are engaged [G-3.0306]
- Develop written criteria for validating ministries within its bounds [G-3.0306]
- Serve as pastor and counselor to teaching elders, ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service and certified Christian educators of the presbytery [G-3.0307]
- Facilitate relationships and settle differences within congregations related to pastoral leadership [G-3.0307]