

"When a Pastor Leaves"

1. PASTOR consults with the Committee on Ministry before informing Session of any intention to resign pastorate and discuss details of announcement to Session.
2. SESSION considers when and how to inform congregation.
3. SESSION in consultation with the Committee on Ministry determines other options for leadership during the Vacancy period including calling of an Interim Pastor.
4. SESSION calls a congregational meeting to concur in pastor's request to dissolve relationship.
5. Committee on Ministry representative (Vacancy Counselor) meets with Session to determine need for Interim leadership.
6. See Book of Order - 2007-2009 (Excerpt) - **G-14.0553**.

"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 and 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."

7. Committee on Ministry appoints a Session Moderator.

Temporary Pastoral Relations:

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, 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.

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.