

**THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
TRANSITIONAL TASK FORCE REPORT**

William A. (Bert) Sigmon, Stated Clerk

April 24, 2012

The Transitional Task Force of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina makes the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the Administrative Board and the Committee on Ministry by approving of the following policy for Administrative Commissions of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (TTF Attachment 1)**
- 2. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the Administrative Board and the Committee on Ministry by approving of the Temporary Pastor Titles for the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (TTF Attachment 2)**
- 3. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the Administrative Board and the Committee on Ministry by approving of the policy for Associate Pastors of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (TTF Attachment 3)**

The Transitional Task Force will continue to work on various matters related to transitioning from the old *Form of Government* to the new *Form of Government*. The task force will continue to report their progress to Presbytery on a quarterly basis.

TTF ATTACHMENT 1

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS

The Presbytery agrees that any administrative commission it establishes, pursuant to *BO: G-3.0109.b*, shall:

1. be composed of a minimum of five teaching elders and ruling elders (no more than one from the same congregation);
2. have a majority of its members be its quorum.

The Presbytery further agrees that the provisions of this decision shall be applicable to administrative commissions established by Presbytery since the new Form of Government came into force on July 10, 2011.

TTF ATTACHMENT 2

TEMPORARY PASTOR TITLES

In harmony with the Book of Order: G-2.0504.b “Temporary Pastoral Relationships”, the Presbytery of WNC determines to use the following titles for various temporary pastors:

OLD	NEW	COMMENT
Interim Pastor	Transitional Pastor	This is the term when there is, or will soon be, a Pastor Nominating Committee.
Stated Supply	Stated Pastor	This is the term when there is not an installed Pastor, nor any immediate prospects.
Parish Associate	Supporting Pastor	This teaching elder must be nominated by the pastor and approved by Session and COM, and that relationship ceases whenever the pastor leaves.
Organizing Pastor	Organizing Pastor	For new Church Development
Temporary Supply	Temporary Pastor	For a period not to exceed 4 months but renewable by COM.

NOTE: “Installed Pastors and Commissioned Lay Pastors” will continue their titles as before.

TTF ATTACHMENT 3

ASSOCIATE PASTOR ELIGIBILITY

The Administrative Board requests the Committee on Ministry to review this “draft policy” before it goes to Presbytery.

The *Book of Order* (G-2.0504a) states that “an associate pastor is ordinarily not eligible to be the next installed pastor of the congregation.” (emphasis added)

The Book of Order (G-2.0504c) states that “Presbyteries that permit this eligibility shall establish such relationships only by a three-fourths vote of the members of Presbytery present and voting.”(emphasis added)

There may be extraordinary circumstances where granting an exception is appropriate in light of a presbytery’s mission strategy. However, it is the wisdom of this Presbytery that, to avoid divisiveness and possible schism and to promote healthy congregations, exceptions not be permitted at this time. The Presbytery agrees to review this policy within five years.