

Recommendation approved by Denver Presbytery August 16, 2008 Advisory Handbook and CPM Supplemental Policies

Introduction

The 2007-2009 Book of Order includes extensive revisions to the Preparation for Ministry process and authorizes the Office of Resourcing Committees on Preparation for Ministry PC(USA) to develop and update an advisory handbook which presbyteries may adopt or modify. The advisory handbook was finalized early in 2008 and is available online at:

<http://www.pcusa.org/prep4min/pdf/p4madvhb.pdf>

In October 2007, Denver Presbytery temporarily adopted the “old” rules, Chapter 14, Part 3, of the 2005-2007 Book of Order, titled "Preparation for the Office of Minister of the Word and Sacrament" (G-14.0300) while the CPM reviewed the new advisory handbook. Since October, the Denver CPM has worked hard to review and understand the new advisory handbook and to develop committee policies that clarify how we do CPM business in this presbytery. The “CPM Supplemental Policies” are the end result of that work.

Recommendation (first reading May 2008; action at August 2008 assembly)

The Denver Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends that Denver Presbytery:

1. Rescind the temporary adoption of the “old” CPM rules (2005-07 Book of Order) as approved by Denver Presbytery, October 2007.
2. Adopt the *Preparation for Ministry in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Advisory Handbook* and authorize the Denver CPM to make decisions regarding adoption of all succeeding versions.
3. Adopt Denver CPM’s Supplemental Policies, with the following understanding:
 - a. If there are conflicting issues between the supplemental policies and the advisory handbook:
 - i. Denver CPM supplemental policies supersede the advisory handbook
 - ii. The Book of Order supersedes CPM supplemental policies
 - b. Denver CPM may revise the committee’s supplemental policies without further action by Denver Presbytery as long as the revisions do not conflict with the Book of Order and as long as the revisions are reported to the presbytery at the next regular assembly.
4. Rescind Denver Presbytery’s Policy Regarding Extraordinary Circumstances for Candidates, adopted 2005.

[Note: “Extraordinary Circumstances” are addressed in the Book of Order and in the Advisory Handbook. Denver Presbytery’s 2005 policy on extraordinary circumstances was adopted in order to meet the “old” Book of Order requirement that the synod approve the presbytery’s process by which a candidate, who has failed one or more examinations twice or who has a documented disability, would be examined. The revisions to the 2007-09 Book of Order (G-14.0470) removed the synod approval requirement for presbytery policies regarding extraordinary circumstances. The pertinent sections of the 2005 policy have been incorporated into the CPM Supplemental Policies; thus the 2005 policy is no longer needed.]