

#### **4.300 PRESBYTERY COMMITTEES: COM, CHURCHES WITHOUT MINISTERS**

##### **4.303 Filling the Pulpit of Vacant Churches on a Sunday-to-Sunday Basis**

When a church (or churches) is/are not served by an installed minister (either temporarily or on a continuing basis), the Committee on Ministry recommends and Presbytery approves that the session or parish council be given permission to "fill the pulpit on a Sunday-to-Sunday basis" the following shall apply:

- A. "Fill the pulpit on a Sunday-to-Sunday basis" shall mean providing leadership for regular Sunday worship services only; with no additional pastoral functions to be performed.
- B. The following persons are approved for use to fill the pulpit on a Sunday-to-Sunday basis, without individual approval by the Committee on Ministry:
  1. Any Minister member of the Presbytery of Northern Waters.
  2. Ordained clergy in good standing in a jurisdiction of any of the following denominations:
    - a. American Baptist Church (ABC)
    - b. Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)
    - c. Disciples of Christ (DOC)
    - d. United Church of Christ (UCC)
    - e. United Methodist Church (UMC)
    - f. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
    - g. Reformed Church in America (RCA)
    - h. And any other denomination in correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
  3. Elders on the active membership rolls of a constituent church of this Presbytery.
  4. Lay Pastors approved by the Presbytery.
  5. Other persons approved as pulpit supply by the Committee on Ministry.
- C. Any person not in one of the above categories must be approved by the Committee on Ministry prior to use.
- D. All persons to be used as pulpit supplies must be approved by the Presbytery appointed moderator prior to use. The moderator, acting on behalf of Presbytery, shall assure that this policy is carried out.
- E. "Sunday-to-Sunday" pulpit supplies are persons used by a particular church/parish no more than six (6) Sundays in six (6) months, no more than three (3) Sundays to be consecutive.

- F. Any utilization of a person more than indicated in Section E above, or for pastoral functions other than as described in A above must be clearly specified in a Presbytery-approved contract for services which contract shall be negotiated in consultation with the Committee on Ministry.
- G. The Presbytery also requires that a supply minister be paid the Presbytery-approved minimum for one service; the Presbytery-approved minimum for a second service; plus the Presbytery-approved rate for mileage as well as for meals when indicated.
- H. The Presbytery determines the fee for moderating the session meetings as well as the presbytery-approved rate for mileage.