

## **4.500 COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY: COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY, CLERGY**

### **4.504 Examination of Prospective Clergy Members of Presbytery**

- A. Every prospective minister or prospective local church professional staff person (including ministers of other denominations in correspondence with the General Assembly) shall be interviewed by at least two Committee on Ministry members before a Pastor Nominating Committee may invite the candidate to candidate for the position. In keeping with G-11.400 through G-11.416, inquiry will be made regarding:
1. The compatibility of her/his particular skills, theological stance, experience, interests and style with the needs of the interested local church(es);
  2. His/her past practice and present intent in the areas of:
    - a. Attendance at Presbytery meetings;
    - b. Participation in the committee and other life/work of Presbytery;
    - c. Promotion and support of Presbytery/Synod/General Assembly program and mission causes;
  3. His/her responses to the following questions:
    - a. Are you able to answer all the ordination questions without exception and, if not, which ones and why not?
    - b. Is there anything in the Constitution that you cannot embrace? If so, what and why?
- B. Review Policy 4.501 regarding Minister Expectations. Any areas of reservation and/or concern discovered in this interview shall be shared with the local church Pastor Nominating Committee or search committee (if such), and reported to the Committee on Ministry, and thence to Presbytery as part of any subsequent Committee on Ministry report and recommendation.
- C. All prospective clergy members of the Presbytery shall be interviewed by a quorum of the Committee on Ministry. For clergy who have been invited to candidate for a position within a local church, this interview shall take place prior to taking up the call and preferably at the time of candidacy. Such clergy will be asked to:
1. Provide a Statement of Faith;
  2. Speak to his or her Journey of Faith;
  3. His or her call to the work to be taken up;
  4. Answer questions identified above in A.2 (above)
  4. Successfully fulfill requirement of Minnesota Statute 148A.

Honorably Retired Clergy will be exempt from providing a Statement of Faith. The Clerk of the Presbytery where they are currently a member will be asked to state that the individual falls within the norms of the Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

- D. When a minister seeking membership in The Presbytery of Northern Waters completes successfully the requirements of this policy, the Committee on Ministry will recommend to Presbytery that the individual be received and enrolled as a member of Presbytery. When the minister is being called to a particular church, the Committee on Ministry may act to receive the minister and enroll him or her as a member of Presbytery and so inform Presbytery.