

Pittsburgh Presbytery

Search Process for Pastor -- Designated Term

A pastor may be called to a position for a designated term of 2 years. The congregation and the pastor must both have agreed to be considered for a designated relationship. The congregation's pastoral nominating committee shall nominate to the congregation for its consideration and vote, only from among those teaching elders designated to it by the presbytery's commission on ministry. The pastor is installed by the presbytery and is a member of the session.

Pastor announces departure to session with Pastor to Presbytery and COM liaison present

Congregational meeting called by session

Congregation dissolves pastoral relationship

Presbytery concurs with dissolution

COM conducts exit interview

Congregation plans farewell

COM appoints moderator

Session confers with COM on whether it should call a pastor to a designated or to indefinite term

If COM agrees to calling a pastor to a designated term, Congregation elects PNC

COM presents 3-5 candidates to PNC (Executive checks completed)

PNC interviews candidates using targeted selection interview process and hears sermons

PNC requests clearance interview for finalists, (background checks completed)

PNC extends call; negotiates terms of call with candidate, and sets effective date for beginning ministry

Candidating service; congregation elects pastor for a designated term

Presbytery approves call

Colleague in ministry assigned by COM

Presbytery conducts ordination/installation service

After end of designated term, congregation may elect pastor for an unlimited term. The session may act as the PNC for the sole purpose of nominating the pastor to serve an unlimited term.