

GUIDELINES FOR PARISH ASSOCIATE RELATIONSHIPS IN MISSION PRESBYTERY

*(NOTE: The Committee on Ministry of Mission Presbytery has decided to use
The description of the Parish Associate role and relationship found in
The Book of Order, 2009-2011, as the basis for this policy statement.)*

A Parish Associate is a teaching elder/minister of the Word and Sacrament who serves in some validated ministry other than the local parish, or is a member-at-large, or is honorably retired, but who wishes to maintain a relationship with a particular church in keeping with ordered ministry. Such persons, already qualified as continuing members of presbytery, may serve as Parish Associates in particular churches in which they have not served previously as members of the pastoral staff.

The Parish Associate relationship shall be established, upon nomination by the pastor, between the Parish Associate, the session of the church, and the presbytery, ordinarily through the Committee on Ministry, and shall be reviewed annually thereafter. The Parish Associate shall be responsible to the pastor, as head of staff, on an “as needed, as available” basis and with or without remuneration.

A Parish Associate may not be called to be the next installed pastor or associate pastor of a church served as Parish Associate.

There shall be no restriction on the number of Parish Associates a congregation may have. The Committee on Ministry shall consider each Parish Associate relationship individually.

The agreement between the session, the Parish Associate, and the presbytery shall terminate when the call to the installed pastor is dissolved. The presbytery may dissolve the relationship with the Parish Associate upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.

A Parish Associate Covenant between

(Name of Teaching Elder)

And the Session of

(Name of Church)

I. Covenant Period

The period covered by this Covenant will begin on _____ and end on _____.
Duties shall be on an "as needed, as available" basis.

II. Remuneration _____ Yes _____ No

If the Parish Associate is to be remunerated, the Session agrees to pay monthly the following amounts (as applicable):

Salary	\$ _____
Housing & Utilities	\$ _____
Travel Expenses	\$ _____
Reimbursement	\$ _____
Social Security	\$ _____
Medical Benefits	\$ _____
Retirement Benefits	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____

III. Responsibilities & Duties

The Session agrees to support the Parish Associate through prayer in fulfilling such responsibilities and duties as assigned by the Pastor and agreed to by the Session:

THIS COVENANT MADE BY THE FOLLOWING PARTIES ON ____/____/_____

Nominated by Pastor: _____

Parish Associate: _____

Clerk of Session: _____

Presbytery Concurrence by COM: _____ Date _____