



Process for Becoming a Temporary Member of the Presbytery of Cincinnati – 2021

The Commission on Ministry has agreed to a process that, we hope, will make it easier and more welcoming for ministers of other denominations to serve our churches as temporary members of the Presbytery of Cincinnati. (Fulfilling requirements in the *Book of Order* in G-2.0506)

(The process for transferring full membership into the Presbyterian Church (USA) is laid out in the *Book of Order* G-2.0505 which basically requires any minister seeking full membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA) to fulfill the same requirements that we demand of our own candidates for ordination. The list of these requirements is found at G-2.0607.)

Temporary members are those who continue to maintain their membership in another denomination but are also determined to be qualified to serve as a Temporary Member in the Presbytery serving one (or more) of our churches. The Commission on Ministry will present to the Presbytery for Temporary Membership, subject to the 3/4 majority vote for exceptions to the usual practice, ministers who:

1. Are in good standing in their current denominations (i.e. no disciplinary charges have been filed),
2. Have an invitation to serve as a Temporary Member Pastor in one of the churches of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, after having served successfully as a Temporary Supply for a period of at least six months, Temporary Membership expires when the pastoral relationship ends but may be re-established by the COM if a previously approved Temporary Member Pastor is engaged in another pastoral relationship in our Presbytery.
3. Possess a M.Div. degree from a seminary or school of theology accredited by the Association of Theological Schools at the time of graduation.
4. Demonstrate the qualifications of character and scholarship we expect by having served as ordained ministers for at least 7 years in pastoral ministry in a congregation or with specialized ministry or chaplaincy approved by the Presbytery.
5. As determined by the Commission on Ministry, candidates may be required to participate in and pass course requirements for the Presbytery CRE training (or equivalent) in 1) Reformed Theology, 2) Reformed Worship and Sacraments, and 3) Presbyterian Polity.
6. Answer all the questions in W-4.0404 (a-i) [constitutional questions for ordination/installation]
7. Temporary Members may moderate only the session and congregational meetings at the church where they are serving and will be assigned a COM member or teaching elder of the Presbytery to mentor the Temporary Member during their initial session meetings.