

Presbytery of New Harmony

Pulpit Supply List Policy

Rationale:

The Presbytery has the responsibility to provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard and provide that the sacraments may be rightly administered and received (G-3.0301a-b). ***This responsibility is one the Presbytery shared with Sessions (G-3.0201a). One way the Presbytery can fulfill its responsibility and support congregations is by providing a list of preachers who have been approved to preach in the pulpits of the congregations of New Harmony Presbytery.***

Policy:

The Committee on Ministry shall establish and provide a Pulpit Supply List of individuals who are authorized to preach. Ordinarily such person shall be PC(USA) Teaching Elders, PC(USA) Ruling Elders, individuals under the care of the CPM, Commissioned Ruling Elders, or an ordained minister in a denomination that is in correspondence with the PC(USA): (RCA, UCC, ELCA, UMBC, American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, etc.).

All persons appearing on the Pulpit Supply List shall be approved by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery.

In an emergency situation were an authorized preacher is not able to serve on a given Sunday or time or worship due to health, weather, or other emergency situations, a Ruling Elder of that congregation may lead worship and deliver a message or sermon.

Ongoing pulpit supply arrangements require the approval of the Committee on Ministry (COM). The services of an individual for pulpit supply may be engaged three (3) occasions per quarter, up to six (6) times per year. A Session wishing to engage an individual to supply the pulpit with greater frequency than this, shall consult with the COM.

Pulpit Supply List: Application Procedures

Teaching Elder Members of New Harmony Presbytery

- Minister members in good standing and of NHP and currently serving congregations shall be added to the Pulpit Supply List upon written request to the Moderator of COM.
- At-Large and Honorably Retired Minister members
 - Consent to a background check at the expense of the individual (fee of \$30) before being added to the Pulpit Supply List.
 - Submit a recent sermon in written form

PC(USA) Teaching Elders not Members of NHP OR Ordained Ministers of Corresponding Denominations

- Submit a written request to the Moderator of COM;
- Submit a recent PIF or equivalent resume;
- Submit a letter from their Stated Clerk [PC(USA)] or their equivalent judicatory official;
- Submit a recent sermon in written form;
- Consent to a background check to be performed by NHP at the expense of the individual (fee of \$30)
- Appear, upon request, for an interview with COM or its designees to assess theology, understandings of Presbyterian polity, and reasons for wanting to be included on the Pulpit Supply List.

Candidates and Inquirers under the care of CPM

- Submit a written request to the Moderator of COM;
- Submit a letter from CPM granting permission to be listed on the Pulpit Supply List as well as any CPM restrictions on supply preaching;
- Submit a recent sermon in written form;

Ruling Elders

- Submit a written request to the Moderator of COM;
- Submit a recent sample sermon in written form;
- Upon request, consent to a background check to be performed by NHP at the expense of the individual (fee of \$30)
- Appear, upon request, for an interview with COM or its designees to assess theology, understandings of Presbyterian polity, and reasons for wanting to be included on the Pulpit Supply List.

Pulpit Supply List: Authorization Procedures

1. Upon receipt of completed application materials the Moderator of COM shall forward materials to the ***Genesis Team*** for review.
2. ***Genesis Team*** may approve the application or request an interview with the applicant. Interviews shall be conducted by at least three (3) members of COM. The Moderator of COM, EP, and AEP shall be invited to participate in the interview. Following the interview, the application shall either be approved or disapproved by those conducting the interview.
3. Applications that are disapproved may be appealed to the full COM by the applicant.

Permission to Moderate Session/Congregational Meetings

- PC(USA) Teaching Elders on the Pulpit Supply List may also moderate meetings of the Session and/or Congregation, but only at the written invitation of the assigned moderator.

Those on the Pulpit Supply should refer to New Harmony Presbytery's Policy on Supply Preachers and Moderators for clarity on honorariums and limits on supply preaching without COM approval.

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Drafted on 03/29/2019

Amended on 04/05/2019 – based on feedback received.

Reviewed by *Leviticus Team* in committee on 04/09/2019

Approved by COM on 04/09/2019