

PRESBYTERY OF NEVADA

POLICY 25 - COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS (from Presbytery of Nevada Manual of Operations)

When the Presbytery of Nevada, in consultation with the session or another responsible committee, determines that its strategy for mission requires the authorization of a ruling elder to be commissioned to limited pastoral service at a validated ministry, the Presbytery policy is:

Titles

Commission Pastors (CP) may be referred to as CP, CRE, Elder or Pastor during their term of commissioning. (The Reverend title is reserved for Teaching Elders/Ministers of the Word and Sacrament.) The Presbytery of Nevada refers to Commission Ruling Elders (CRE) as Commissioned Pastors (CP).

General Authorizations

Commissioned Pastors are typically authorized to a particular congregation or validated ministry to preach the gospel, lead worship, pray with and for the people, teach and conduct Bible studies, provide pastoral and spiritual care and moderate their assigned congregation's session. In addition, the CP as moderator may install and ordain officers of that congregation and administer the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion as authorized by the congregation's session. Finally, the authorization to lead worship services includes other services provided by the session, such as a service of witness to the resurrection (funerals) or services during Lent.

Wedding Authorization

After being approved by the appropriate state agency to officiate weddings in the state of the congregation served by the CP using the Presbytery of Nevada as the authorizing organization, the CP is authorized to officiate weddings,

Serving Other Congregations in the Presbytery

CPs may preside at congregational and session meetings and be authorized to perform the sacraments at any congregation in the Presbytery of Nevada when invited by the congregation through its session and with the permission of the Committee on Ministry through its chair.

Presbytery Membership and Oversight

The CP is enrolled as an elder commissioner to the presbytery during the term of the commission regardless of their session commissioning the CP to Presbytery.

The commission will have a term, typically three (3) years. However, the presbytery will review this commission every year. The presbytery may withdraw the commission for reasons it deems good and sufficient at any time.

All provisions of the current Book of Order apply to Commissioned Pastors. If those provisions conflict with the commission recorded here, the Book of Order is to be followed. The CP shall work under the supervision of the presbytery.

The presbytery assigns a minister of the Word and Sacrament to serve as mentor and supervisor.

Compensation

Any compensation will be negotiated between the CP and the validated ministry, with Presbytery approval in the same manner as other temporary supply positions.

Adopted 14 March 2023

Presbytery of Nevada - Commissioned Pastor's Annual Report

Name: _____

Church/Ministry of your Commissioning: _____

Mentor/Supervisor: _____ Email: _____

Clerk of Session: _____ Email: _____

Dates: (from _____ to _____)

Do you wish to continue to serve this congregation / ministry? ___ Yes ___ No

Please attach a copy of your current contract along with this report for Presbytery review.

Briefly answer the questions listed below. (Attach additional pages if necessary)

1. What are your major responsibilities in this ministry?

2. What are your key ministry strengths?

3. What are your key accomplishments in this pastoral ministry?

4. What have been some of the challenges in your ministry?

5. In what areas of your ministry could you use additional training or support, and how may the Committee on Ministry/Presbytery of Nevada better support you? Any additional information you wish to share?

6. Would you like to meet with the Committee on Ministry?

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Presbytery of Nevada - Mentor's Annual Report for Commissioned Pastor

Commissioned Pastor's Name: _____

Commissioned on _____ by the Presbytery of Nevada to serve
the _____ (church or agency) for up to three years,
ending on _____.

Mentor / Supervisor Name: _____

Mentor / Supervisor Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Briefly answer the following questions. (Attach additional pages if necessary)

1. Please describe your relationship with this Commissioned Pastor.
2. What are the strengths of this Commissioned Pastor and their ministry?
3. How might the Presbytery better support this Commissioned Pastor and their ministry?
4. Are there goals for this Commissioned Pastor and their ministry?
5. How have you been able to assist the Commissioned Pastor in achieving their vision/goals?
6. Is there any additional information you wish to share?
7. Would you like to meet with the Committee on Ministry?

Mentor / Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____