

New Part VII
ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Chapter Two

THE MINISTRY OF THE ORDAINED

<p style="text-align: center;">¶ new Part VII, chap. 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Finalized draft; renumbered</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">¶ new Part VII, chap. 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">With tracking changes to BOD 2016: additions <u>underlined</u> and deletions struck through.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">With references to BOD 2016 Part VI, e.g. [2703]</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Comments</p>
<p>¶306.001. <i>Purpose of an Order</i>-The specific and limited function of each order is to: (1) provide for regular gatherings of ordained deacons and ordained elders for continuing formation in relationship to Jesus Christ through such experiences as Bible study, study of issues facing the church and society, and theological exploration in vocational identity and leadership; (2) assist in plans for individual study and retreat experiences; (3) develop a bond of unity and common commitment to the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church and the annual conference; (4) enable the creation of relationships that allow mutual support and trust; and (5) hold accountable all members of the order in the fulfilling of these purposes. All of the functions of the order(s) shall be fulfilled in cooperation and coordination with the Board of Ordained Ministry and do not replace the normal supervisory processes, the processes of evaluation for ordained ministers, or the responsibilities of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the cabinet, or the clergy session.</p> <p>GBOD¶306.001 = 307</p>	<p>[307] ¶306.001. <i>Purpose of an Order</i>-The specific and limited function of each order is to: (1) provide for regular gatherings of ordained deacons and ordained elders for continuing formation in relationship to Jesus Christ through such experiences as Bible study, study of issues facing the church and society, and theological exploration in vocational identity and leadership; (2) assist in plans for individual study and retreat experiences; (3) develop a bond of unity and common commitment to the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church and the annual conference; (4) enable the creation of relationships that allow mutual support and trust; and (5) hold accountable all members of the order in the fulfilling of these purposes. All of the functions of the order(s) shall be fulfilled in cooperation and coordination with the Board of Ordained Ministry and do not replace the normal supervisory processes, the processes of evaluation for ordained ministers, or the responsibilities of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the cabinet, or the clergy session.</p>	

<p>¶306.002. Organization of an Order- There shall be in each annual conference an Order of Deacons and an Order of Elders. The bishop shall convene and provide continuing spiritual leadership for the order, with the support and assistance of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Necessary financial support shall be provided by the annual conference through the budget of the board. The board may also use other appropriate funding sources for this purpose. The board shall nominate from within the order’s membership and the order shall elect quadrennially a chairperson of the order who, in cooperation with and under the guidance of the bishop, will provide continuing leadership for the order. The chairperson will be responsible for implementation of plans and activities of the order and will represent the order to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry. The chairperson will serve as a member of the board’s executive committee. Activities of the order and proposals for funding shall be regularly reported to the board.</p> <p>GBOD¶306.002 = 306</p>	<p>[306] ¶306.002. Organization of an Order- There shall be in each annual conference an Order of Deacons and an Order of Elders. [308] The bishop shall convene and provide continuing spiritual leadership for the order, with the support and assistance of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Necessary financial support shall be provided by the annual conference through the budget of the board. The board may also use other appropriate funding sources for this purpose. The board shall nominate from within the order’s membership and the order shall elect quadrennially a chairperson of the order who, in cooperation with and under the guidance of the bishop, will provide continuing leadership for the order. The chairperson will be responsible for implementation of plans and activities of the order and will represent the order to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry. The chairperson will serve as a member of the board’s executive committee. Activities of the order and proposals for funding shall be regularly reported to the board.</p>	
<p>¶308.001 1. In all cases where district committees on ordained ministry, boards of ordained ministry, or clergy in executive session vote on granting any status regarding license, ordination, or conference membership, it is understood that the requirements set forth herein are minimum requirements only. Each person voting is expected to vote prayerfully based on his or her personal judgment of the applicant’s gifts, evidence of God’s grace, and promise of future usefulness for the mission of the Church.¹</p> <p>2 All clergy members mentioned in ¶ 308.1 shall receive written communication about decisions made regarding their relationship with the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD¶308.001 = 369.3-4 ¹ Judicial Council Decision 536</p>	<p>[369.3-4] ¶308.001 1.3. In all cases where district committees on ordained ministry, boards of ordained ministry, or clergy in executive session vote on granting any status regarding license, ordination, or conference membership, it is understood that the requirements set forth herein are minimum requirements only. Each person voting is expected to vote prayerfully based on his or her personal judgment of the applicant’s gifts, evidence of God’s grace, and promise of future usefulness for the mission of the Church.¹</p> <p>2.4. All clergy members mentioned in ¶ 308.1 369.1 shall receive written communication about decisions made regarding their relationship with the annual conference.</p> <p>¹ Judicial Council Decision 536</p>	

<p>¶309.001 In candidacy according to ¶¶ 309.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: Persons, upon hearing and heeding the call to servant leadership through licensed or ordained ministry, shall contact a clergyperson in their local church, another clergy, or the district superintendent of the district in which they participate in a United Methodist ministry setting to inquire about the process of candidacy. Persons are encouraged to use resources recommended by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, such as <i>The Christian as Minister</i> and the <i>Ministry Inquiry Process</i>.</p> <p>GBOD¶309.001 = 310.Intro</p>	<p>[310.Intro] <u>¶309.001 In candidacy according to ¶¶ 309.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> Persons, upon hearing and heeding the call to servant leadership through licensed or ordained ministry, shall contact a clergyperson in their local church, another clergy, or the district superintendent of the district in which they participate in a United Methodist ministry setting to inquire about the process of candidacy. Persons are encouraged to use resources recommended by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, such as <i>The Christian as Minister</i> and the <i>Ministry Inquiry Process</i>.</p>	
<p>¶309.002 In regards to ¶¶ 309.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: Those beginning candidacy for licensed or ordained ministry:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. shall write to the district superintendent requesting admission to the candidacy process and the assignment of a candidacy mentor. Include a statement of call. Request registration through the district superintendent with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; 2. after registration by the district superintendent with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, mentor and candidate will study the resources adopted by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry; <p>GBOD¶309.002 = 310.1b</p>	<p>[310.1b] <u>¶309.002 In regards to ¶¶ 309.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> <u>Those beginning candidacy for licensed or ordained ministry:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1.b)</u> shall write to the district superintendent requesting admission to the candidacy process and the assignment of a candidacy mentor. Include a statement of call. Request registration through the district superintendent with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; <u>2.e)</u> after registration by the district superintendent with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, mentor and candidate will study the resources adopted by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry; 	
<p>¶309.003 In regards to ¶¶ 309.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Candidates seeking to become certified for licensed or ordained ministry: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) request to meet with the district committee on ordained ministry. In preparation for meeting with the district committee on ordained ministry, consult with the mentor to provide the following written information, in addition to the 	<p>[310.2a-e+.3] <u>¶309.003 In regards to ¶¶ 309.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1. Candidates seeking to become certified for licensed or ordained ministry:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) request to meet with the district committee on ordained ministry. In preparation for meeting with the district committee on ordained ministry, consult with the mentor to provide the following written information, in addition to the 	

material written for ¶ 309.2b: (i) the most formative experience of their Christian life; (ii) God's call to licensed or ordained ministry and role of the church in their call; (iii) their beliefs as a Christian; (iv) their gifts for ministry; (v) their present understanding of their call to ministry as elder, deacon, or licensed ministry; and (vi) their support system;

b) complete and release required psychological reports, criminal background and credit checks. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:

(1) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or

(2) a notarized statement certifying that this candidate has neither been accused in writing nor convicted of a felony, misdemeanor, any incident of sexual misconduct, or child abuse.

The district committee on ordained ministry through the Board of Ordained Ministry shall seek ways to consider cultural and ethnic/racial realities and language translations as candidates meet these requirements, including interviews, psychological assessments, criminal background, and credit checks.

c) provide other information as the district committee may require for determining gifts, evidence of God's grace, fruit, and demonstration of the call to licensed or ordained ministry;

d) agree for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness of the gospel, and in consideration of their influence as clergy, to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life as set forth in ¶¶ 103-105; 160-166. To this end they shall agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge

material written for ¶ ~~309.2b-310.1d~~: (i) the most formative experience of their Christian life; (ii) God's call to licensed or ordained ministry and role of the church in their call; (iii) their beliefs as a Christian; (iv) their gifts for ministry; (v) their present understanding of their call to ministry as elder, deacon, or licensed ministry; and (vi) their support system;

b) complete and release required psychological reports, criminal background and credit checks. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:

(1) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or

(2) a notarized statement certifying that this candidate has neither been accused in writing nor convicted of a felony, misdemeanor, any incident of sexual misconduct, or child abuse.

The district committee on ordained ministry through the Board of Ordained Ministry shall seek ways to consider cultural and ethnic/racial realities and language translations as candidates meet these requirements, including interviews, psychological assessments, criminal background, and credit checks.

c) provide other information as the district committee may require for determining gifts, evidence of God's grace, fruit, and demonstration of the call to licensed or ordained ministry;

d) agree for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness of the gospel, and in consideration of their influence as clergy, to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life as set forth in ¶¶ 103-105; 160-166. To this end they shall agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge

and love of God.⁷ (See Footnote 7 below) The local church is encouraged to assist candidates with the expenses of candidacy;

e) be voted on by individual written ballot by the committee members present. A three-fourths majority vote of the committee members present is required for certification (§ 551.006.1.g); and *f)* upon vote of certification, be encouraged by the district committee on ordained ministry to attend a United Methodist seminary.

2. In special circumstances, the district committee on ordained ministry may authorize other United Methodist ministry settings to serve in the role of the local church for the purpose of recommending candidacy and specify the persons or bodies that will serve in the roles of pastor, pastor parish-relations committee, and charge conference.

Footnote 7. In adopting the statements in ¶¶ 305.2 and 309.003.1.d on the moral and social responsibility of ordained ministers, the General Conference seeks to elevate the standards by calling for a more thoroughgoing moral commitment by the candidate and for a more careful and thorough examination of candidates by district committees and boards of the ministry. The legislation in no way implies that the use of tobacco is a morally indifferent question. In the light of the developing evidence against the use of tobacco, the burden of proof would be upon all users to show that their use of it is consistent with the highest ideals of the Christian life. Similarly, regarding beverage alcohol, the burden of proof would be upon users to show that their action is consistent with the ideals of excellence of mind, purity of body, and responsible social behavior.

Therefore, the changes here do not relax the traditional view concerning the use of tobacco and beverage alcohol by ordained ministers in The United Methodist Church. Rather they call for higher standards of self-discipline and habit formation in all personal and social relationships. They call

and love of God.⁷ (See Footnote 7 below)The local church is encouraged to assist candidates with the expenses of candidacy;

e) be voted on by individual written ballot by the committee members present. A three-fourths majority vote of the committee members present is required for certification (~~¶551.006.1.g-666.7~~); and *f)* upon vote of certification, be encouraged by the district committee on ordained ministry to attend a United Methodist seminary.

~~2.3.~~ In special circumstances, the district committee on ordained ministry may authorize other United Methodist ministry settings to serve in the role of the local church for the purpose of recommending candidacy and specify the persons or bodies that will serve in the roles of pastor, pastor parish-relations committee, and charge conference.

Footnote 7. In adopting the statements in ¶¶ ~~305.2 and 309.003.1.d~~ ~~310.2d~~ on the moral and social responsibility of ordained ministers, the General Conference seeks to elevate the standards by calling for a more thoroughgoing moral commitment by the candidate and for a more careful and thorough examination of candidates by district committees and boards of the ministry. The legislation in no way implies that the use of tobacco is a morally indifferent question. In the light of the developing evidence against the use of tobacco, the burden of proof would be upon all users to show that their use of it is consistent with the highest ideals of the Christian life. Similarly, regarding beverage alcohol, the burden of proof would be upon users to show that their action is consistent with the ideals of excellence of mind, purity of body, and responsible social behavior.

Therefore, the changes here do not relax the traditional view concerning the use of tobacco and beverage alcohol by ordained ministers in The United Methodist Church. Rather they call for higher standards of self-discipline and habit formation in all personal and social relationships. They call

for dimensions of moral commitment that go far beyond any specific practices which might be listed.²

The General Conference, in response to expressions throughout the Church regarding homosexuality and ordination, reaffirms the present language of the *Discipline* regarding the character and commitment of persons seeking ordination and affirms its high standards.

For more than 200 years candidates for ordination have been asked Wesley's Questions, including ". . . Have they a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? . . ." (§ 309). All candidates agree to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life and to this end agree "to exercise responsible self-control, by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, integrity in all personal relationships, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God" (§ 305.2).

The character and commitment of candidates for the ordained ministry is described or examined in six places in the *Discipline* (§§ 305, 309.003, 320, 324, and 329). These say in part: "Only those shall be elected to full membership who are of unquestionable moral character and genuine piety, sound in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, and faithful in the discharge of their duties" (§ 324).

The statement on ordination (§ 305.2) states: "*The Church expects those who seek ordination to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life . . . [and to] agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits. . . .*"

There are eight crucial steps in the examination of candidates. They are:

- (1) The self-examination of the individual seeking ordination as he or she responds to God's call in personal commitment to Christ and his church.

for dimensions of moral commitment that go far beyond any specific practices which might be listed.²

The General Conference, in response to expressions throughout the Church regarding homosexuality and ordination, reaffirms the present language of the *Discipline* regarding the character and commitment of persons seeking ordination and affirms its high standards.

For more than 200 years candidates for ordination have been asked Wesley's Questions, including ". . . Have they a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? . . ." (§ 309 ~~310~~). All candidates agree to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life and to this end agree "to exercise responsible self-control, by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, integrity in all personal relationships, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God" (§ 305 ~~304~~.2).

The character and commitment of candidates for the ordained ministry is described or examined in six places in the *Book of Discipline* (§§ ~~305, 309.003, 320, 324, and 329~~ 304, 310.2, 324, 330, 333, and 335). These say in part: "Only those shall be elected to full membership who are of unquestionable moral character and genuine piety, sound in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, and faithful in the discharge of their duties" (§ ~~324~~ 333).

The statement on ordination (§ ~~305~~ 304.2) states: "*The Church expects those who seek ordination to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life . . . [and to] agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits. . . .*"

There are eight crucial steps in the examination of candidates. They are:

<p>(2) The decision of the committee on pastor-parish relations, which makes the first recommendation to the charge conference when a member seeks to become a candidate for ordained ministry.</p> <p>(3) The decision of the charge conference, which must recommend the candidate.</p> <p>(4) The decision of the district committee on ordained ministry, which must recommend the candidate to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and, where applicable, the decision of the district conference.</p> <p>(5) The decision of the Board of Ordained Ministry, which must recommend deacon's ordination and provisional membership.³</p> <p>(6) The decision of the clergy members of the annual conference, who must elect candidates to provisional membership.</p> <p>(7) The recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry for deacon's or elder's ordination and full membership.</p> <p>(8) The election to deacon's or elder's ordination and full membership by the clergy members of the annual conference.</p> <p>All clergy members of the annual conference are accountable as to character and effectiveness to the annual conference throughout their entire ministry.</p> <p>The General Conference has made it clear in the "Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task" (Part III of the <i>Discipline</i>) that Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason are our guidelines. "United Methodists share with other Christians the conviction that Scripture is the primary source and criterion for Christian doctrine."</p> <p>In the Social Principles, the General Conference has said that we "do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching." Furthermore, the Principles state that "we affirm the sanctity of the marriage covenant that is expressed in love, mutual</p>	<p>(1) The self-examination of the individual seeking ordination as he or she responds to God's call in personal commitment to Christ and his church.</p> <p>(2) The decision of the committee on pastor-parish relations, which makes the first recommendation to the charge conference when a member seeks to become a candidate for ordained ministry.</p> <p>(3) The decision of the charge conference, which must recommend the candidate.</p> <p>(4) The decision of the district committee on ordained ministry, which must recommend the candidate to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and, where applicable, the decision of the district conference.</p> <p>(5) The decision of the Board of Ordained Ministry, which must recommend deacon's ordination and provisional membership. See Judicial Council Decisions 513, 536, 542.</p> <p>(6) The decision of the clergy members of the annual conference, who must elect candidates to provisional membership.</p> <p>(7) The recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry for deacon's or elder's ordination and full membership.</p> <p>(8) The election to deacon's or elder's ordination and full membership by the clergy members of the annual conference.</p> <p>All clergy members of the annual conference are accountable as to character and effectiveness to the annual conference throughout their entire ministry.</p> <p>The General Conference has made it clear in the "Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task" (Part III of the <i>Discipline</i>) that Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason are our guidelines. "United Methodists share with other Christians the conviction that Scripture is the primary source and criterion for Christian doctrine."</p>	
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<p>support, personal commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman. We believe that God’s blessing rests upon such marriage, whether or not there are children of the union. We reject social norms that assume different standards for women than for men in marriage.” Also, “we affirm the integrity of single persons, and we reject all social practices that discriminate or social attitudes that are prejudicial against persons because they are single.”</p> <p>The General Conference affirms the wisdom of our heritage expressed in the disciplinary provisions relating to the character and commitment of ordained ministers. The United Methodist Church has moved away from prohibitions of specific acts, for such prohibitions can be endless. We affirm our trust in the covenant community and the process by which we ordain ministers.</p> <p>In our covenant we are called to trust one another as we recommend, examine, and elect candidates for the ordained ministry and conference membership.⁴</p> <p>GBOD ¶309.003 = 310.2a-e+.3</p> <p>³ Judicial Council Decisions 513, 536, 542.</p> <p>⁴ Judicial Council Decision 480.</p>	<p>In the Social Principles, the General Conference has said that we “do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.” Furthermore, the Principles state that “we affirm the sanctity of the marriage covenant that is expressed in love, mutual support, personal commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman. We believe that God’s blessing rests upon such marriage, whether or not there are children of the union. We reject social norms that assume different standards for women than for men in marriage.” Also, “we affirm the integrity of single persons, and we reject all social practices that discriminate or social attitudes that are prejudicial against persons because they are single.”</p> <p>The General Conference affirms the wisdom of our heritage expressed in the disciplinary provisions relating to the character and commitment of ordained ministers. The United Methodist Church has moved away from prohibitions of specific acts, for such prohibitions can be endless. We affirm our trust in the covenant community and the process by which we ordain ministers.</p> <p>In our covenant we are called to trust one another as we recommend, examine, and elect candidates for the ordained ministry and conference membership.⁴</p> <p>³ Judicial Council Decisions 513, 536, 542.</p> <p>⁴ Judicial Council Decision 480.</p>	
<p>¶309.004. <i>Appointment of Certified Candidates</i>-A certified candidate is eligible for appointment as a local pastor upon completion of License for Pastoral Ministry (¶ 312 and 312.001). Those appointed as local pastors are clergy members of the annual conference (¶ 533) and are no longer listed as certified candidates. They do not continue with candidacy mentors but are assigned a clergy mentor (¶ 338.2).</p> <p>GBOD ¶309.004 = 311</p>	<p>[311] ¶309.004. <i>Appointment of Certified Candidates</i>-A certified candidate is eligible for appointment as a local pastor upon completion of License for Pastoral Ministry (¶312 and 312.001 315). Those appointed as local pastors are clergy members of the annual conference (¶ 533 602.4) and are no longer listed as certified candidates. They do not continue with candidacy mentors but are assigned a clergy mentor (¶338.2 348.4).</p>	

<p>¶309.005. <i>Orientation to Ministry</i>-An orientation to ministry is required for all candidates for licensed and ordained ministry. Attendance at the orientation and becoming a certified candidate may be sequential or concurrent. This common ministry preparation experience is for the purpose of building collegiality and understanding among the varieties of set-apart ministry (deacons, elders, local pastors).</p> <p>1. The orientation shall be held in each annual conference and is the responsibility of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>2. Collegiality in ministry and commonalities and distinctions among the categories of ministry (deacon, elder, local pastor) will be emphasized to facilitate understanding and appreciation of the gifts contributed through team ministry, and the practice of set-apart ministry within the United Methodist connection will be articulated.</p> <p>3. Guidelines will be made available from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>GBOD¶309.005 = 312</p>	<p>[312] ¶309.005. <i>Orientation to Ministry</i>-An orientation to ministry is required for all candidates for licensed and ordained ministry. Attendance at the orientation and becoming a certified candidate may be sequential or concurrent. This common ministry preparation experience is for the purpose of building collegiality and understanding among the varieties of set-apart ministry (deacons, elders, local pastors).</p> <p>1. The orientation shall be held in each annual conference and is the responsibility of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>2. Collegiality in ministry and commonalities and distinctions among the categories of ministry (deacon, elder, local pastor) will be emphasized to facilitate understanding and appreciation of the gifts contributed through team ministry, and the practice of set-apart ministry within the United Methodist connection will be articulated.</p> <p>3. Guidelines will be made available from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry.</p>	
<p>¶310.001 In continuation of certified candidates according to ¶¶ 310, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. A candidate preparing for ordained ministry who is enrolled as a student in a school, college, university, or school of theology recognized by the University Senate shall present annually to the district committee on ordained ministry an official transcript from the school the person is attending and provide a report as to whether his or her local church is supporting him or her spiritually and financially (see ¶ 229.003).</p> <p>The transcript shall be considered by the district committee on ordained ministry as part of the evidence of his or her progress. The report of local church financial support may be</p>	<p>[313.2+4] ¶310.001 <u>In continuation of certified candidates according to ¶¶ 310, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. A candidate preparing for ordained ministry who is enrolled as a student in a school, college, university, or school of theology recognized by the University Senate shall present annually to the district committee on ordained ministry an official transcript from the school the person is attending and provide a report as to whether his or her local church is supporting him or her spiritually and financially (see BOD¶ 229.003 247.8).</u></p> <p>The transcript shall be considered by the district committee on ordained ministry as part of the evidence of his or her progress. The report of local church financial support may be</p>	

<p>used by the district superintendent to express gratitude for this support or encourage a local congregation to improve its basic care for those it recommends.</p> <p>2. A person who is a certified candidate or who is in the candidacy process may have her or his status or studies accepted by another district committee in the same or another annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD ¶310.001 = 313.2+4</p>	<p>used by the district superintendent to express gratitude for this support or encourage a local congregation to improve its basic care for those it recommends.</p> <p>2.4. A person who is a certified candidate or who is in the candidacy process may have her or his status or studies accepted by another district committee in the same or another annual conference.</p>	
<p>¶312.001 In license for pastoral ministry according to ¶¶ 312, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Licensing may be recommended for local pastors who have completed in addition:</p> <p>a) The Orientation to Ministry;</p> <p>b) The studies for the license as a local pastor as prescribed and supervised by the Division of Ordained Ministry or one-third of their work for a Master of Divinity degree at a school of theology listed by the University Senate;</p> <p>c) Been examined and recommended by a three-fourths majority vote of the district committee on ordained ministry (¶ 551.006.1.g).</p> <p>2. In every case, those who are licensed shall have:</p> <p>a) Released the required psychological reports, criminal background and credit checks, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:</p> <p>(1) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or</p> <p>(2) a notarized statement certifying that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse.</p> <p>b) Been approved by a three-fourths majority vote of the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOD ¶ 635.2h);</p>	<p>[315.2] <u>¶312.001 In license for pastoral ministry according to ¶¶ 312, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. Licensing may be recommended for local pastors who have completed in addition:</u></p> <p>a)b) The Orientation to Ministry;</p> <p>b)e) The studies for the license as a local pastor as prescribed and supervised by the Division of Ordained Ministry or one-third of their work for a Master of Divinity degree at a school of theology listed by the University Senate;</p> <p>c)d) Been examined and recommended by a three-fourths majority vote of the district committee on ordained ministry (¶551.006.1.g-666.7).</p> <p>[315.6] 2.6. In every case, those who are licensed shall have:</p> <p>a) Released the required psychological reports, criminal background and credit checks, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:</p> <p>(1) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or</p> <p>(2) a notarized statement certifying that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse.</p>	

<p>c) Provided the board with a satisfactory certificate of good health on a prescribed form from a physician approved by that board.</p> <p>d) Received approval by a three-fourths majority vote of the clergy session.</p> <p>GBOD¶312.001 = 315.2 and 315.6</p>	<p>b) Been approved by a three-fourths majority vote of the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOD¶ 635.2h);</p> <p>c) Provided the board with a satisfactory certificate of good health on a prescribed form from a physician approved by that board.</p> <p>d) Received approval by a three-fourths majority vote of the clergy session.</p>	
<p>¶313.001 In licensing of local pastors according to ¶¶313, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local pastors approved annually by the district committee on ordained ministry may be licensed. 2. Such authorization granted by the license may be renewed annually by the district committee or the Board of Ordained Ministry. 3. The license shall remain valid only so long as the appointment continues and shall be recertified by the bishop when assignments change between sessions of the annual conference.⁵ 4. A local pastor shall be under the supervision of a district superintendent and shall be assigned a clergy mentor while in the Course of Study or in seminary (¶ 338.001). 5. All local pastors shall receive written communication about decisions made regarding their relationship with the annual conference. 6. Local pastors who have completed the Course of Study may upon retirement annually request from the District Committee of Ordained Ministry and the bishop a license to continue to serve in the local church where they hold membership for the purpose of providing sacramental rites of baptism and Holy Communion, at the request of the appointed pastor. 7. <i>Interim License as Local Pastor</i>—Between sessions of the annual conference, persons who have completed the conditions for licensing listed above may be granted interim license as a local pastor upon recommendation of the cabinet, 	<p>[316.1-4+7-8; 317] ¶313.001 <u>In licensing of local pastors according to ¶¶313, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1. Local pastors approved annually by the district committee on ordained ministry may be licensed.</u> 2. Such authorization granted by the license may be renewed annually by the district committee or the Board of Ordained Ministry. 3. The license shall remain valid only so long as the appointment continues and shall be recertified by the bishop when assignments change between sessions of the annual conference.⁵ 4. A local pastor shall be under the supervision of a district superintendent and shall be assigned a clergy mentor while in the Course of Study or in seminary (¶<u>338.001</u> 348). <u>5.7:</u> All local pastors shall receive written communication about decisions made regarding their relationship with the annual conference. <u>6.8:</u> Local pastors who have completed the Course of Study may upon retirement annually request from the District Committee of Ordained Ministry and the bishop a license to continue to serve in the local church where they hold membership for the purpose of providing sacramental rites of baptism and Holy Communion, at the request of the appointed pastor. <p>[317] <u>7.</u> <i>Interim License as Local Pastor</i>—Between sessions of the annual conference, persons who have completed the conditions for licensing listed above may be granted interim</p>	

<p>the district committee on ordained ministry, and executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, and may be appointed by the bishop.</p> <p>GBOD ¶313.001 = 316.1-4+7-8; 317 ⁵ Judicial Council Decision 112</p>	<p>license as a local pastor upon recommendation of the cabinet, the district committee on ordained ministry, and executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, and may be appointed by the bishop.</p> <p>⁵ Judicial Council Decision 112</p>	
<p>¶314.001 <i>Categories of Local Pastor</i>— 1. Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements of ¶ 312 and 312.001, the district committee on ordained ministry shall certify the completion of the prescribed studies to the candidates and the Board of Ordained Ministry, and they shall be listed in the journal as eligible to be appointed as local pastors. Award of the license shall not be made until an appointment to a pastoral charge is made in accordance with ¶ 331.2.</p> <p>2. In recommending to the annual conference those who have met the requirements to serve as local pastors for the ensuing year, the Board of Ordained Ministry shall classify them in three categories with educational and other requirements of their category. Any person who fails to meet these requirements shall be discontinued as a local pastor. The categories shall be defined as follows:</p> <p>a) <i>Full-Time Local Pastors</i>—Those eligible to be appointed full-time local pastors are persons (a) who may devote their entire time to the church in the charge to which they are appointed and its outreach in ministry and mission to the community; (b) who receive in cash support per annum from all Church sources a sum equal to or larger than the minimum base compensation established by the annual conference for full-time local pastors; (c) who, unless they have completed the Course of Study or other approved theological education, shall (i) complete four courses per year in a Course of Study school, or (ii) shall have made progress in the correspondence curriculum prescribed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry</p>	<p>[318] ¶314.001 <i>Categories of Local Pastor</i>— <u>1.</u> Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements of ¶ <u>312 and 312.001</u> 315, the district committee on ordained ministry shall certify the completion of the prescribed studies to the candidates and the Board of Ordained Ministry, and they shall be listed in the journal as eligible to be appointed as local pastors. Award of the license shall not be made until an appointment to a pastoral charge is made in accordance with ¶ <u>331.2</u> 337.2.</p> <p><u>2.</u> In recommending to the annual conference those who have met the requirements to serve as local pastors for the ensuing year, the Board of Ordained Ministry shall classify them in three categories with educational and other requirements of their category. Any person who fails to meet these requirements shall be discontinued as a local pastor. The categories shall be defined as follows:</p> <p>a) 1. <i>Full-Time Local Pastors</i>—Those eligible to be appointed full-time local pastors are persons (a) who may devote their entire time to the church in the charge to which they are appointed and its outreach in ministry and mission to the community; (b) who receive in cash support per annum from all Church sources a sum equal to or larger than the minimum base compensation established by the annual conference for full-time local pastors; (c) who, unless they have completed the Course of Study or other approved theological education, shall (i) complete four courses per year in a Course of Study school, or (ii) shall have made progress in the correspondence curriculum prescribed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry</p>	

(BOD¶1421.3d), or (iii) be enrolled as a pre-theological or theological student in a college, university, or school of theology approved by the University Senate; (d) who, when they have completed the Course of Study or a Master of Divinity degree from a seminary listed by the University Senate, are involved in continuing education (¶ 340); (e) who shall not be enrolled as a full-time student in any school.

b) Part-Time Local Pastors—Those eligible to be appointed as part-time local pastors are persons (a) who have met the provisions of ¶ 312 and 312.001; (b) who do not devote their entire time to the charge to which they are appointed; or (c) do not receive in cash support per annum from all Church sources a sum equal to or larger than the minimum base compensation established by the annual conference for full-time local pastors; and (d) who, unless they have completed the Course of Study or other approved theological education, shall (i) complete two courses per year in a Course of Study school, or (ii) have made progress in the correspondence curriculum prescribed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, or (iii) be enrolled as a pre-theological or theological student in a college, university, or school of theology approved by the University Senate.

Part-time local pastors may be appointed to small membership churches that are grouped together in a charge under the supervision of a mentor.

c) Students Appointed as Local Pastors—Students enrolled as pre-theological or theological students in a college, university, or school of theology listed by the University Senate (a) who have met the provisions of ¶ 312 and 312.001, and (b) who shall make appropriate progress in their educational program as determined by the Board of Ordained Ministry may be appointed as part-time or full-time local pastors in a conference other than the conference in which they are certified candidates. (c) Students who are appointed as local pastors continue to relate to the district committee on ordained ministry in the conference in which

(BOD¶1421.3d), or (iii) be enrolled as a pre-theological or theological student in a college, university, or school of theology approved by the University Senate; (d) who, when they have completed the Course of Study or a Master of Divinity degree from a seminary listed by the University Senate, are involved in continuing education (¶ 340 350); (e) who shall not be enrolled as a full-time student in any school.

~~b)2.~~ *Part-Time Local Pastors*—Those eligible to be appointed as part-time local pastors are persons (a) who have met the provisions of ¶ 312 and 312.001 345; (b) who do not devote their entire time to the charge to which they are appointed; or (c) do not receive in cash support per annum from all Church sources a sum equal to or larger than the minimum base compensation established by the annual conference for full-time local pastors; and (d) who, unless they have completed the Course of Study or other approved theological education, shall (i) complete two courses per year in a Course of Study school, or (ii) have made progress in the correspondence curriculum prescribed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, or (iii) be enrolled as a pre-theological or theological student in a college, university, or school of theology approved by the University Senate.

Part-time local pastors may be appointed to small membership churches that are grouped together in a charge under the supervision of a mentor.

~~c)3.~~ *Students Appointed as Local Pastors*—Students enrolled as pre-theological or theological students in a college, university, or school of theology listed by the University Senate (a) who have met the provisions of ¶ 312 and 312.001 345, and (b) who shall make appropriate progress in their educational program as determined by the Board of Ordained Ministry may be appointed as part-time or full-time local pastors in a conference other than the conference in which they are certified candidates. (c) Students who are appointed as local pastors continue to

<p>they are certified candidates and shall be responsible to them for the continuation of their certified candidacy.</p> <p>3. Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the clergy members in full connection may vote approval annually for students of other denominations enrolled in a school of theology listed by the University Senate to serve as local pastors for the ensuing year under the direction of the district superintendent, provided that they shall indicate to the satisfaction of the Board of Ordained Ministry their agreement to support and maintain the doctrine and polity of The United Methodist Church while under appointment.</p> <p>4. Local pastors may serve on any board, commission, or committee with voice and vote, except on matters of clergy character, qualifications, status, and ordination. However, local pas- tors who have completed the Course of Study may serve on the district committee on ordained ministry with voice and vote. Local pastors who have completed the Course of Study may serve on the Board of Ordained Ministry with voice and vote.</p> <p>GBOD ¶314.001 = 318</p>	<p>relate to the district committee on ordained ministry in the conference in which they are certified candidates and shall be responsible to them for the continuation of their certified candidacy.</p> <p>3.4. Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the clergy members in full connection may vote approval annually for students of other denominations enrolled in a school of theology listed by the University Senate to serve as local pastors for the ensuing year under the direction of the district superintendent, provided that they shall indicate to the satisfaction of the Board of Ordained Ministry their agreement to support and maintain the doctrine and polity of The United Methodist Church while under appointment.</p> <p>4.5. Local pastors may serve on any board, commission, or committee with voice and vote, except on matters of clergy character, qualifications, status, and ordination. However, local pas- tors who have completed the Course of Study may serve on the district committee on ordained ministry with voice and vote. Local pastors who have completed the Course of Study may serve on the Board of Ordained Ministry with voice and vote.</p>	
<p>¶315.001 In continuance as a Local Pastor according to ¶315, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Local pastors may be approved for continuance by the district committee on ordained ministry.</p> <p>2. Persons licensed as local pastors who are not provisional members shall continue in college, in a program of theological education at an approved seminary, or in the Course of Study.</p> <p>3. A full-time local pastor shall complete the Course of Study curriculum within eight years and a part-time local pastor within twelve, unless a family situation or other</p>	<p>[319] <u>¶315.001 In continuance as a Local Pastor according to ¶315, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. Local pastors may be approved for continuance by the district committee on ordained ministry.</u></p> <p>2.4. Persons licensed as local pastors who are not provisional members shall continue in college, in a program of theological education at an approved seminary, or in the Course of Study.</p> <p>3. A full-time local pastor shall complete the Course of Study curriculum within eight years and a part-time local pastor within twelve, unless a family situation or other</p>	

<p>circumstance precludes the local pastor’s opportunity to meet said requirements. The local pastor may be granted an annual extension beyond the pre- scribed limit upon a three-fourths vote of the district committee on ordained ministry, recommendation by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, and the vote of the clergy members in full connection.⁶</p> <p>4. A local pastor may choose to remain in a local relationship with the annual conference upon having completed the Course of Study.</p> <p>GBOD ¶315.001 = 319</p> <p>⁶ Judicial Council Decision 436, 439.</p>	<p>circumstance precludes the local pastor’s opportunity to meet said requirements. The local pastor may be granted an annual extension beyond the pre- scribed limit upon a three-fourths vote of the district committee on ordained ministry, recommendation by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, and the vote of the clergy members in full connection.⁶</p> <p>4. A local pastor may choose to remain in a local relationship with the annual conference upon having completed the Course of Study.</p> <p>⁶ Judicial Council Decision 436, 439.</p>	
<p>¶316.001 In regards to ¶¶316, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Whenever the district committee on ordained ministry does not recommend continuation of license, license and credentials shall be surrendered to the district superintendent for deposit with the secretary of the conference.</p> <p>2. <i>Trial of Local Pastor</i>—When a local pastor is accused of an offense under ¶ 2702, the procedures described in ¶¶ 2703-2709 and 2705.001, 2706.001-.003, 2708.001-.002, and 2709.001-.005 shall apply.⁷</p> <p>3. Whenever persons whose approval as local pastors has been discontinued by an annual conference are being considered for appointment or temporary employment in another annual conference, the Board of Ordained Ministry where these persons are being considered shall obtain from the Board of Ordained Ministry of the conference where approval has been discontinued verification of their qualifications and information about the circumstances relating to termination of their approval as local pastors.</p> <p>4. Retirement provisions for local pastors shall be the same as those for clergy members in ¶ 349.2, .3 with pensions payable in accordance with BOD ¶ 1506.5.</p>	<p>[320] ¶316.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶316, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. Whenever the district committee on ordained ministry does not recommend continuation of license, license and credentials shall be surrendered to the district superintendent for deposit with the secretary of the conference.</u></p> <p>2.3. <i>Trial of Local Pastor</i>—When a local pastor is accused of an offense under ¶ 2702, the procedures described in BOD ¶¶ 2703-2709 and 2705.001, 2706.001-.003, 2708.001-.002, and 2709.001-.005 2713 shall apply.⁷</p> <p><u>3.</u> Whenever persons whose approval as local pastors has been discontinued by an annual conference are being considered for appointment or temporary employment in another annual conference, the Board of Ordained Ministry where these persons are being considered shall obtain from the Board of Ordained Ministry of the conference where approval has been discontinued verification of their qualifications and information about the circumstances relating to the termination of their approval as local pastors.</p> <p><u>4.</u> Retirement provisions for local pastors shall be the same as those for clergy members in ¶ 349.2, .3 357.1, .2, .4, with pensions payable in accordance with BOD ¶ 1506.5.</p>	.

<p>5. A retired local pastor may be appointed by the bishop to a charge and licensed upon recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry without creating additional claim upon the conference minimum compensation nor further pension credit.</p> <p>GBOD ¶316.001 = 320 ⁷ Judicial Council Decision 982</p>	<p>5. A retired local pastor may be appointed by the bishop to a charge and licensed upon recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry without creating additional claim upon the conference minimum compensation nor further pension credit.</p> <p>⁷ Judicial Council Decision 982</p>	
<p>¶318.001 In requirements for election as associate members according to ¶¶ 318, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. They shall have,</p> <p><i>a)</i> in addition to the studies for license as a local pastor, up to one half of which may be taken by correspondence or online/distance learning courses, or received a Master of Divinity degree that includes the basic graduate theological studies from a school of theology listed by the University Senate;</p> <p><i>b)</i> completed a minimum of sixty semester hours toward the Bachelor of Arts or an equivalent degree in a college or university recognized by the University Senate;</p> <p><i>c)</i> been recommended by a three-fourths majority vote by the district committee on ordained ministry and the Board of Ordained Ministry;</p> <p><i>d)</i> declared their willingness to accept continuing full-time appointment;</p> <p><i>e)</i> satisfied the board regarding their physical, mental, and emotional health (the annual conference shall require psychological reports, criminal background and credit checks, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse to provide additional information on the candidate’s fitness for the ministry);</p> <p><i>f)</i> for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness to the Christian gospel, and in consideration of his/her influence as a clergy member of the annual conference, be willing to make a complete dedication</p>	<p>[322] <u>¶318.001 In requirements for election as associate members according to ¶¶ 318, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. They shall have,</u></p> <p><u><i>a)</i></u> in addition to the studies for license as a local pastor, up to one half of which may be taken by correspondence or online/ distance learning courses, or received a Master of Divinity degree that includes the basic graduate theological studies from a school of theology listed by the University Senate;</p> <p><u><i>b)</i></u>(5) completed a minimum of sixty semester hours toward the Bachelor of Arts or an equivalent degree in a college or university recognized by the University Senate;</p> <p><u><i>c)</i></u>(6) been recommended by a three-fourths majority vote by the district committee on ordained ministry and the Board of Ordained Ministry;</p> <p><u><i>d)</i></u>(7) declared their willingness to accept continuing full-time appointment;</p> <p><u><i>e)</i></u>(8) satisfied the board regarding their physical, mental, and emotional health (the annual conference shall require psychological reports, criminal background and credit checks, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse to provide additional information on the candidate’s fitness for the ministry);</p> <p><u><i>f)</i></u>(9) for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness to the Christian gospel, and in consideration of his/her influence as a clergy member of the annual conference, be willing to make a complete dedication</p>	

<p>of himself/herself to the highest ideals of the Christian life; and to this end agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God; and</p> <p>g) prepared at least one written sermon on a biblical passage specified by the Board of Ordained Ministry and given satisfactory answers in a written doctrinal examination administered by the Board of Ordained Ministry. (Consideration shall be given to the questions listed in ¶ 320.7)</p> <p>2. Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, an annual conference may equate part-time service to the requirement of full-time service. Such equivalence is to be determined in light of the years of service involved, the quality of that service, the maturity of the applicant, and other relevant factors.⁸</p> <p>3. Associate members may retire under the provisions of ¶ 349 of the <i>Discipline</i>. They shall retain their license for pastoral ministry for service in the local church and maintain their relationship as retired clergy members of the annual conference.</p> <p>4. Associate members may be received as provisional members in the annual conference under conditions as set forth in ¶ 320.7 upon receiving a three-fourths majority vote of the clergy members of the conference in full connection, present and voting.</p> <p>GBOD ¶318.001 = 322</p> <p>⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 343, 572, 1181.</p>	<p>of himself/herself to the highest ideals of the Christian life; and to this end agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God; and</p> <p>g)(40) prepared at least one written sermon on a biblical passage specified by the Board of Ordained Ministry and given satisfactory answers in a written doctrinal examination administered by the Board of Ordained Ministry. (Consideration shall be given to the questions listed in ¶ <u>320.7</u> 324.9)</p> <p>2. Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, an annual conference may equate part-time service to the requirement of full-time service. Such equivalence is to be determined in light of the years of service involved, the quality of that service, the maturity of the applicant, and other relevant factors.⁸</p> <p>3. Associate members may retire under the provisions of ¶ <u>349</u> 357 of the <i>Discipline</i>. They shall retain their license for pastoral ministry for service in the local church and maintain their relationship as retired clergy members of the annual conference.</p> <p>4. Associate members may be received as provisional members in the annual conference under conditions as set forth in ¶ <u>320.7</u> 324.6 upon receiving a three-fourths majority vote of the clergy members of the conference in full connection, present and voting.</p> <p>⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 343, 572, 1181.</p>	
<p>¶319.001 In organizing a Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members according to ¶¶ 319, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p>	<p>[323] ¶319.001 <u>In organizing a Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members according to ¶¶ 319, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p>	

1. All licensed local pastors and associate members shall be members of and participate in the Fellowship. The Fellowship will provide mutual support for its members for the sake of the life and mission of the church.

2. The specific and limited function is to:

a) provide for regular gatherings of local pastors and associate members for continuing formation in relationship to Jesus Christ through such experiences as Bible study, study of issues facing the church and society, and theological exploration in vocational identity and leadership;

b) encourage local pastors and associate members in continued study beyond the Course of Study and Advanced Course of Study;

c) develop a bond of unity and common commitment to the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church and the annual conference; and

d) enable the creation of relationships that allow mutual support and trust.

3. The bishop shall convene the fellowship and the Board of Ordained Ministry shall coordinate its life and work. Necessary financial support shall be provided by the annual conference through the budget of the board. The board shall nominate from within the Fellowship membership and the Fellowship shall elect quadrennially a chairperson of the Fellowship during a gathered meeting of the annual session of the Fellowship conference who, in cooperation with and under the guidance of the bishop, will provide continuing leadership for the Fellowship. The elected Fellowship chairperson, full-time or part-time, shall be a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry and its executive committee as specified in ¶ 539.005.4.

4. Activity of the Fellowship will be reported regularly to the Board of Ordained Ministry.

1. All licensed local pastors and associate members shall be members of and participate in the Fellowship. The Fellowship will provide mutual support for its members for the sake of the life and mission of the church.

2.1. The specific and limited function is to:

a) provide for regular gatherings of local pastors and associate members for continuing formation in relationship to Jesus Christ through such experiences as Bible study, study of issues facing the church and society, and theological exploration in vocational identity and leadership;

b) encourage local pastors and associate members in continued study beyond the Course of Study and Advanced Course of Study;

c) develop a bond of unity and common commitment to the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church and the annual conference; and

d) enable the creation of relationships that allow mutual support and trust.

3.2. The bishop shall convene the fellowship and the Board of Ordained Ministry shall coordinate its life and work. Necessary financial support shall be provided by the annual conference through the budget of the board. The board shall nominate from within the Fellowship membership and the Fellowship shall elect quadrennially a chairperson of the Fellowship during a gathered meeting of the annual session of the Fellowship conference who, in cooperation with and under the guidance of the bishop, will provide continuing leadership for the Fellowship. The elected Fellowship chairperson, full-time or part-time, shall be a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry and its executive committee as specified in ¶ 539.005.4 ~~635.1a~~.

4. Activity of the Fellowship will be reported regularly to the Board of Ordained Ministry.

<p>¶320.001 In regards to ¶¶ 320.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>Each candidate shall have been recommended in writing to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, based on a three-fourths majority vote of the district committee on ordained ministry.</p> <p>GBOD¶320.001 = 324.10</p>	<p>[324.10] <u>¶320.001 In regards to ¶¶ 320.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>10- Each candidate shall have been recommended in writing to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, based on a three-fourths majority vote of the district committee on ordained ministry.</p>	
<p>¶320.002 In regards to ¶¶ 320.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>Each candidate shall present a satisfactory certificate of good health by a physician on the prescribed form. Disabilities are not to be construed as unfavorable health factors when a person with disability is capable of meeting the professional standards and is able to render effective service as a provisional member.</p> <p>GBOD¶320.002 = 324.8</p>	<p>[324.8] <u>¶320.002 In regards to ¶¶ 320.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>8- Each candidate shall present a satisfactory certificate of good health by a physician on the prescribed form. Disabilities are not to be construed as unfavorable health factors when a person with disability is capable of meeting the professional standards and is able to render effective service as a provisional member.</p>	
<p>¶320.003 In educational requirements according to ¶¶ 320.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. <i>Undergraduate Requirement:</i> A candidate for provisional membership shall have completed a bachelor’s degree from a college or university recognized by the University Senate. Exceptions to the undergraduate degree requirements may be made in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in some instances, for missional purposes, for persons who have a minimum of sixty semester hours of Bachelor of Arts credit and:</p> <p>a) have been prevented from pursuit of the normal course of baccalaureate education,</p> <p>b) are members of a group whose cultural practices and training enhance insight and skills for effective ministry not available through conventional formal education, or</p>	<p>[324.3-.5] <u>¶320.003 In educational requirements according to ¶¶ 320.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>1.3- <i>Undergraduate Requirement:</i> A candidate for provisional membership shall have completed a bachelor’s degree from a college or university recognized by the University Senate. Exceptions to the undergraduate degree requirements may be made in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in some instances, for missional purposes, for persons who have a minimum of sixty semester hours of Bachelor of Arts credit and:</p> <p>a) have been prevented from pursuit of the normal course of baccalaureate education,</p> <p>b) are members of a group whose cultural practices and training enhance insight and skills for effective ministry not available through conventional formal education, or</p>	

c) have graduated with a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a college not recognized by the University Senate and have completed one half of the studies of the Master of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree in a school of theology listed by the University Senate.

2. *Graduate Requirement:*

a) Candidates for deacon or elder shall have completed a minimum of one-half of the 27 semester hours of basic graduate theological studies in the Christian faith. These courses may be included within or in addition to a seminary degree. These basic graduate theological studies must include courses in Old Testament; New Testament; theology; church history; mission of the church in the world; evangelism; worship/liturgy; and United Methodist doctrine, polity and history.

b) a candidate for ordination as an elder shall have completed one half of the studies toward a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent, including one half of the basic graduate theological studies from a seminary listed by the University Senate.

c) a candidate for ordination as a deacon shall have:

- (1) completed one half of the studies of a master's degree from a United Methodist seminary or one listed by the University Senate, or
- (2) received a master's degree in the area of the specialized ministry in which the candidate will serve
- (3) completed one half of the basic graduate theological studies, in a context which will provide formation as a United Methodist deacon in full connection within a cohesive program developed by the seminary and approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, documented by a record of completion from that school.

3. In some instances a candidate who is pursuing ordination to serve as deacon in full connection may fulfill

c) have graduated with a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a college not recognized by the University Senate and have completed one half of the studies of the Master of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree in a school of theology listed by the University Senate.

~~2.4.~~ *Graduate Requirement:*

a) Candidates for deacon or elder shall have completed a minimum of one-half of the 27 semester hours of basic graduate theological studies in the Christian faith. These courses may be included within or in addition to a seminary degree. These basic graduate theological studies must include courses in Old Testament; New Testament; theology; church history; mission of the church in the world; evangelism; worship/liturgy; and United Methodist doctrine, polity and history.

b) a candidate for ordination as an elder shall have completed one half of the studies toward a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent, including one half of the basic graduate theological studies from a seminary listed by the University Senate.

c) a candidate for ordination as a deacon shall have:

- (1) completed one half of the studies of a master's degree from a United Methodist seminary or one listed by the University Senate, or
- (2) received a master's degree in the area of the specialized ministry in which the candidate will serve
- (3) completed one half of the basic graduate theological studies, in a context which will provide formation as a United Methodist deacon in full connection within a cohesive program developed by the seminary and approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, documented by a record of completion from that school.

~~3.5.~~ In some instances a candidate who is pursuing ordination to serve as deacon in full connection

<p>the academic requirements through the following professional certification alternate route:</p> <p>a) shall have reached thirty-five years of age at the time to become a certified candidate;</p> <p>b) completed a bachelor 's degree, received professional certification or license in the area of ministry in which the candidate will serve, have completed a minimum of eight semester hours of graduate credit or equivalent quarter hours in the area of specialization, and have been recommended by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry;</p> <p>c) have completed a minimum of one half of the twenty-seven semester hours of the basic graduate theological studies of the Christian faith including the areas of: Old Testament; New Testament; theology; church history; mission of the church in the world; evangelism; worship/liturgy; and United Methodist doctrine, polity, and history, in a context which will provide a cohesive program and formation as a United Methodist deacon in full connection within a cohesive program developed by the seminary and approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, documented by a record of completion from that school.</p> <p>GBOD¶320.003 = 324.3-.5</p>	<p>may fulfill the academic requirements through the following professional certification alternate route:</p> <p>a) shall have reached thirty-five years of age at the time to become a certified candidate;</p> <p>b) completed a bachelor 's degree, received professional certification or license in the area of ministry in which the candidate will serve, have completed a minimum of eight semester hours of graduate credit or equivalent quarter hours in the area of specialization, and have been recommended by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry;</p> <p>c) have completed a minimum of one half of the twenty-seven semester hours of the basic graduate theological studies of the Christian faith including the areas of: Old Testament; New Testament; theology; church history; mission of the church in the world; evangelism; worship/liturgy; and United Methodist doctrine, polity, and history, in a context which will provide a cohesive program and formation as a United Methodist deacon in full connection within a cohesive program developed by the seminary and approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, documented by a record of completion from that school.</p>	
<p>¶320.004 In educational requirements according to ¶¶ 320.7, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The Course of Study requirements may be fulfilled as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (BOD¶ 1421.3d) by:</p> <p>a) Completion of Course of Study, of which no more than one-half may be taken by correspondence or Internet; up to one-half of Course of Study may be online courses; and</p>	<p>[324.6.c] ¶320.004 <u>In educational requirements according to ¶¶ 320.7, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>1. <u>The</u> Course of Study requirements may be fulfilled as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (BOD¶ 1421.3d) by:</p> <p>a) Completion of Course of Study, of which no more than one-half may be taken by correspondence or Internet; up to one-half of Course of Study may be online courses; and</p>	

<p>b) Completion of an equivalent program of study embedded in an undergraduate degree at a UM-related college or university.</p> <p>2. completed an Advanced Course of Study consisting of thirty-two semester hours of graduate theological study offered by a seminary recognized by the University Senate or its equivalent as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The Advanced Course of Study shall include the basic graduate theological studies (¶320.003.2.a).⁹</p> <p>3. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall require an official transcript of credits from each school before recognizing any of the applicant’s educational claims. In case of doubt, the board may submit a transcript to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p>GBOD¶320.004 = 324.6.c and 324.7</p> <p>⁹ Judicial Council Decision 823, 1077</p>	<p>b)2. Completion of an equivalent program of study embedded in an undergraduate degree at a UM-related college or university.</p> <p>2.a) completed an Advanced Course of Study consisting of thirty-two semester hours of graduate theological study offered by a seminary recognized by the University Senate or its equivalent as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The Advanced Course of Study shall include the basic graduate theological studies (¶320.003.2.a-324.4a).⁹</p> <p>[324.7] 3.7. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall require an official transcript of credits from each school before recognizing any of the applicant’s educational claims. In case of doubt, the board may submit a transcript to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p>⁹ Judicial Council Decision 823, 1077</p>	
<p>¶321.001 In commissioning according to ¶¶ 321, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Through commissioning, the church sends persons in leadership and service in the name of Jesus Christ and marks their entrance into a time of provisional membership as they prepare for ordination. Commissioned ministers are provisional clergy members of the annual conference and are accountable to the bishop and the clergy session for the conduct of their ministry.</p> <p>2. During the residency program the clergy session discerns their fitness for ordination and their effectiveness in ministry. After fulfilling all candidacy requirements and upon recommendation of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the clergy session shall vote on the provisional membership and commissioning of the candidates. The bishop and secretary of the conference shall provide</p>	<p>[325] ¶321.001 In commissioning according to ¶¶ 321, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p><u>1.</u> Through commissioning, the church sends persons in leadership and service in the name of Jesus Christ and marks their entrance into a time of provisional membership as they prepare for ordination. Commissioned ministers are provisional clergy members of the annual conference and are accountable to the bishop and the clergy session for the conduct of their ministry.</p> <p><u>2.</u> During the residency program the clergy session discerns their fitness for ordination and their effectiveness in ministry. After fulfilling all candidacy requirements and upon recommendation of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the clergy session shall vote on the provisional membership and commissioning of the candidates. The bishop and secretary of the conference shall provide</p>	

<p>credentials as a provisional member and a commissioned minister in the annual conference.</p> <p>3. The period of commissioned ministry is concluded when the provisional members are received as full members of the annual conference and ordained as either deacon or elder, or a decision is made not to proceed toward ordination and provisional membership is ended.</p> <p>GBOD ¶321.001 = 325</p>	<p>credentials as a provisional member and a commissioned minister in the annual conference.</p> <p><u>3.</u> The period of commissioned ministry is concluded when the provisional members are received as full members of the annual conference and ordained as either deacon or elder, or a decision is made not to proceed toward ordination and provisional membership is ended.</p>	
<p>¶322.001 In service of provisional members according to ¶¶ 322, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. During the provisional period, arrangements shall be offered by the Board of Ordained Ministry for all provisional members to be involved in a residency curriculum that extends theological education by using covenant groups and mentoring to support the practice and work of their ministry as servant leaders, to contemplate the grounding of ordained ministry, and to understand covenant ministry in the life of the conference. Provisional members may be appointed to attend school, to extension ministry, or in appointments beyond the local church. Wherever they are appointed, the service of provisional members shall be evaluated by the district superintendent and the Board of Ordained Ministry in terms of the provisional member’s ability to express and give leadership in servant ministry.</p> <p>2. Provisional members planning to give their lives as deacons in full connection shall be in ministries of Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice in the local church or in an approved appointment beyond the local church. A provisional member pre-paring for ordination as a deacon shall be licensed for the practice of ministry during provisional membership to perform the duties of the ministry of the deacon as stated in ¶ 326 and be granted support as stated in ¶ 328.001.10. Such authorization granted by the license</p>	<p>[326] <u>¶322.001</u> <u>In service of provisional members according to ¶¶ 322, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> During the provisional period, arrangements shall be offered by the Board of Ordained Ministry for all provisional members to be involved in a residency curriculum that extends theological education by using covenant groups and mentoring to support the practice and work of their ministry as servant leaders, to contemplate the grounding of ordained ministry, and to understand covenant ministry in the life of the conference. Provisional members may be appointed to attend school, to extension ministry, or in appointments beyond the local church. Wherever they are appointed, the service of provisional members shall be evaluated by the district superintendent and the Board of Ordained Ministry in terms of the provisional member’s ability to express and give leadership in servant ministry.</p> <p>2. <u>2.4.</u> Provisional members planning to give their lives as deacons in full connection shall be in ministries of Word, Service, Compassion, and Justice in the local church or in an approved appointment beyond the local church. A provisional member pre-paring for ordination as a deacon shall be licensed for the practice of ministry during provisional membership to perform the duties of the ministry of the deacon as stated in ¶ <u>326-328</u> and be granted support as stated in ¶ 334: <u>328.001.10</u>. Such authorization granted by</p>	

may be renewed annually by the clergy session upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

3. Provisional members planning to give their lives as elders in full connection shall be in ministries of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service in the local church or in an approved extension ministry. A provisional member preparing for ordination as an elder shall be licensed for pastoral ministry (§ 312). Such authorization granted by the license may be renewed annually by the clergy session upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

4. Provisional members who are serving in extension ministries, enrolled in graduate degree programs, or appointments beyond the local church shall be accountable to the district superintendent and the Board of Ordained Ministry for the conduct of ministry, and for demonstrating their effectiveness in the ministry of the order to which they seek to be ordained. In all cases, they will also demonstrate their effectiveness in servant leadership in the local church to the satisfaction of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

5. Provisional members seeking to change their ordination track shall:

a) Write to the Board of Ordained Ministry and inform the district superintendent and bishop of their intention.

b) Interview with the Board of Ordained Ministry to articulate and clarify their call.

c) Fulfill academic and service requirements.

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and by vote of the clergy session the person may be received into full connection with the annual conference and be ordained into the order to which they are transitioning.

the license may be renewed annually by the clergy session upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

~~3.2.~~ Provisional members planning to give their lives as elders in full connection shall be in ministries of Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service in the local church or in an approved extension ministry. A provisional member preparing for ordination as an elder shall be licensed for pastoral ministry (§ ~~312~~ ~~315~~). Such authorization granted by the license may be renewed annually by the clergy session upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

~~4.3.~~ Provisional members who are serving in extension ministries, enrolled in graduate degree programs, or appointments beyond the local church shall be accountable to the district superintendent and the Board of Ordained Ministry for the conduct of ministry, and for demonstrating their effectiveness in the ministry of the order to which they seek to be ordained. In all cases, they will also demonstrate their effectiveness in servant leadership in the local church to the satisfaction of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

~~5.4.~~ Provisional members seeking to change their ordination track shall:

a) Write to the Board of Ordained Ministry and inform the district superintendent and bishop of their intention.

b) Interview with the Board of Ordained Ministry to articulate and clarify their call.

c) Fulfill academic and service requirements.

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and by vote of the clergy session the person may be received into full connection with the annual conference and be ordained into the order to which they are transitioning.

<p>¶323.001 In eligibility and rights of provisional membership according to ¶¶ 323, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>2. Provisional members shall be amenable to the annual conference in the performance of their ministry and are subject to the provisions of the <i>Book of Discipline</i> in the performance of their duties. They shall be supervised by the district superintendent under whom they are appointed. They shall also be assigned a deacon or elder as mentor by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Provisional members preparing to become elders shall be eligible for appointment by meeting disciplinary provisions (¶ 312).</p> <p>3. Provisional members in appointments beyond the local church shall relate themselves to the district superintendent in the area where their work is done. The district superintendent shall give them supervision and report annually to their Board of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>GBOD¶323.001 = 327</p>	<p>[327] <u>¶323.001</u> In eligibility and rights of provisional membership according to ¶¶ 323, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p><u>2.4.</u> Provisional members shall be amenable to the annual conference in the performance of their ministry and are subject to the provisions of the <i>Book of Discipline</i> in the performance of their duties. They shall be supervised by the district superintendent under whom they are appointed. They shall also be assigned a deacon or elder as mentor by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Provisional members preparing to become elders shall be eligible for appointment by meeting disciplinary provisions (¶ <u>312-315</u>).</p> <p><u>3.5.</u> Provisional members in appointments beyond the local church shall relate themselves to the district superintendent in the area where their work is done. The district superintendent shall give them supervision and report annually to their Board of Ordained Ministry.</p>	
<p>¶324.001 In service requirements according to ¶¶ 324.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Years of service for provisional deacons are satisfied by serving in any of the appointment settings list in ¶ 328.</p> <p>2. Years of service for provisional elders are satisfied by serving in any ministry setting requiring the regular proclamation of the word, the administration of the sacraments, and the short or long-term ordering of the life of the community of faith. Such ministry settings may include campus ministry, college and university chaplaincy, hospital and prison chaplaincy, military chaplaincy, overseas/mission work and other ministries so recognized by the Division of Ordained Ministry of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p>3. Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, an annual conference may equate a provisional</p>	<p><u>¶324.001</u> In service requirements according to ¶¶ 324.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p><u>1. Years of service for provisional deacons are satisfied by serving in any of the appointment settings list in ¶ 328.</u></p> <p>[335] <u>2. Years of service for provisional elders are satisfied by serving</u> in any ministry setting requiring the regular proclamation of the word, the administration of the sacraments, and the short or long-term ordering of the life of the community of faith may count toward the fulfillment of this requirement. Such ministry settings may include campus ministry, college and university chaplaincy, hospital and prison chaplaincy, military chaplaincy, overseas/mission work and other ministries so recognized by the Division of Ordained Ministry of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p><u>3.</u> Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, an annual conference may equate a <u>provisional</u></p>	

deacon or a provisional elder's less than full-time to the requirement of full-time service.¹⁰

Such equivalence is to be determined in light of the years of service involved, the quality of that service, the maturity of the applicant, and other relevant factors. Supervision is to be (a) personally assumed or delegated by the district superintendent, and (b) assumed by a mentor assigned by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Their service shall be evaluated by the Board of Ordained Ministry as effective according to written guidelines developed by the board and adopted by the clergy members in full connection.¹¹

In rare cases, the Board of Ordained Ministry may, by a two-thirds vote, approve years of service in an autonomous Methodist church as meeting this requirement if adequate supervision has been provided; (2) been previously elected as provisional members; (3) met the following educational requirements: (a) graduation with a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from a college or university listed by the University Senate, or demonstrated competency equivalence through a process designed in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (b) graduation with a Master of Divinity degree from a school of theology listed by the University Senate, or its equivalent as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; or (c) met the education requirements of ¶ 320.7 for local pastors; (d) educational requirements in every case shall include completion of the basic graduate theological studies of the Christian faith as outlined in ¶ 320.003.2(a); (4) satisfied the board regarding physical, mental, and emotional health; (5) prepared and preached at least one written sermon on a biblical passage specified by the Board of Ordained Ministry; (6) presented a detailed plan and outline for teaching a Bible study; (7) presented a project that demonstrates fruitfulness in carrying out the church's mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"; (8) responded to a written or oral doctrinal examination

deacon or a provisional elder's less than full-time to the requirement of full-time service.¹⁰

Such equivalence is to be determined in light of the years of service involved, the quality of that service, the maturity of the applicant, and other relevant factors. Supervision is to be (a) personally assumed or delegated by the district superintendent, and (b) assumed by a mentor assigned by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Their service shall be evaluated by the Board of Ordained Ministry as effective according to written guidelines developed by the board and adopted by the clergy members in full connection.¹¹

In rare cases, the Board of Ordained Ministry may, by a two-thirds vote, approve years of service in an autonomous Methodist church as meeting this requirement if adequate supervision has been provided; (2) been previously elected as provisional members; (3) met the following educational requirements: (a) graduation with a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from a college or university listed by the University Senate, or demonstrated competency equivalence through a process designed in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (b) graduation with a Master of Divinity degree from a school of theology listed by the University Senate, or its equivalent as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; or (c) met the education requirements of ¶ 320.7 ~~324.6~~ for local pastors; (d) educational requirements in every case shall include completion of the basic graduate theological studies of the Christian faith as outlined in ¶ 320.003.2 (a); (4) satisfied the board regarding physical, mental, and emotional health; (5) prepared and preached at least one written sermon on a biblical passage specified by the Board of Ordained Ministry; (6) presented a detailed plan and outline for teaching a Bible study; (7) presented a project that demonstrates fruitfulness in carrying out the church's mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"; (8) responded to a written or oral doctrinal examination

<p>administered by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The candidate should demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly in both oral and written form.</p> <p>GBOD ¶324.001 = new and 336 ¹⁰ Judicial Council Decision 440 ¹¹ Judicial Council Decisions 555, 719</p>	<p>administered by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The candidate should demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly in both oral and written form.</p> <p>¹⁰ Judicial Council Decision 440 ¹¹ Judicial Council Decisions 555, 719</p>	
<p>¶328.001 In appointments of deacons and provisional deacons to various ministries according to ¶¶ 328, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>a)</i> Agencies and settings beyond the local church, including ecumenical agencies, that extend the witness and service of Christ’s love and justice in the world and connect the church with the most needy, neglected, and marginalized; <i>b)</i> United Methodist Church-related agencies, schools, colleges, theological schools, and within the connectional structures of The United Methodist Church; <i>c)</i> A local congregation, charge, or cooperative parish, leading in the congregation’s mission to the world and equipping all Christians to fulfill their own calls to Christian service; <i>d)</i> As students in research doctoral programs that may lead to appointments in academic settings as instructors or professors in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church; <i>e)</i> As instructors or professors or administrators in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Deacons and provisional deacons may be appointed to attend school. 3. Deacons and provisional deacons shall be appointed to settings that allow fulfillment of their call and where supervision is provided with goals, evaluation, and accountability acceptable to the bishop, the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry. 	<p>[331] ¶328.001 <u>In appointments of deacons and provisional deacons to various ministries according to ¶¶ 328, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>a)</i> Agencies and settings beyond the local church, including ecumenical agencies, that extend the witness and service of Christ’s love and justice in the world and connect the church with the most needy, neglected, and marginalized; <i>b)</i> United Methodist Church-related agencies, schools, colleges, theological schools, and within the connectional structures of The United Methodist Church; <i>c)</i> A local congregation, charge, or cooperative parish, leading in the congregation’s mission to the world and equipping all Christians to fulfill their own calls to Christian service; <i>d)</i> As students in research doctoral programs that may lead to appointments in academic settings as instructors or professors in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church; <i>e)</i> As instructors or professors or administrators in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Deacons and provisional deacons may be appointed to attend school. 3. Deacons and provisional deacons shall be appointed to settings that allow fulfillment of their call and where supervision is provided with goals, evaluation, and accountability acceptable to the bishop, the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry. 	

4. *Appointments Beyond the Local Church-* a) Those seeking such an appointment shall submit a written statement to the bishop and the Board of Ordained Ministry, describing in detail the proposed setting for their ministry, sharing a sense of calling to that ministry and their gifts and evidence of God's grace for it, and expressing how the proposed ministry is an intentional fulfillment of their ordination vows. This statement shall also include a detailed description of the accountability structures related to the proposed ministry setting.

b) Deacons or provisional deacons who are appointed beyond the local church may pursue endorsement by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall annually request the deacon or provisional deacon's bishop in the conference of membership to verify the appropriate employment of persons under its endorsement and request the bishop to reappoint.

c) Deacons and provisional deacons are amenable to the annual conference of which they are members and insofar as possible should maintain close working relationship with and effective participation in the work of their annual conference, assuming whatever responsibilities they are qualified and requested to assume. When deacons or provisional deacons are appointed to a setting beyond the local church outside of the conference where they hold membership, the appointment shall be made by the bishop of the conference where membership is held in consultation with the bishop of the area in which the appointment is located.

d) Deacons and provisional deacons appointed to settings beyond the local church shall submit annually to the bishop, the district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry, a written report on the official form developed for the Church by the General Council on Finance and Administration for use by the annual conference.

4. *Appointments Beyond the Local Church-* a) Those seeking such an appointment shall submit a written statement to the bishop and the Board of Ordained Ministry, describing in detail the proposed setting for their ministry, sharing a sense of calling to that ministry and their gifts and evidence of God's grace for it, and expressing how the proposed ministry is an intentional fulfillment of their ordination vows. This statement shall also include a detailed description of the accountability structures related to the proposed ministry setting.

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c) Deacons and provisional deacons are amenable to the annual conference of which they are members and insofar as possible should maintain close working relationship with and effective participation in the work of their annual conference, assuming whatever responsibilities they are qualified and requested to assume. When deacons or provisional deacons are appointed to a setting beyond the local church outside of the conference where they hold membership, the appointment shall be made by the bishop of the conference where membership is held in consultation with the bishop of the area in which the appointment is located.

d) Deacons and provisional deacons appointed to settings beyond the local church shall submit annually to the bishop, the district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry, a written report on the official form developed for the Church by the General Council on Finance and Administration for use by the annual conference.

Deacons and provisional deacons appointed to settings outside the annual conference in which they hold membership shall also furnish a copy of their report to the bishop of the area in which the appointment is located.

e) The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry, in order to assist the Boards of Ordained Ministry and cabinets, will provide guidelines for validating the appropriateness of appointment settings beyond the local church and will be available for consultation with bishops, cabinets, and Boards of Ordained Ministry.

5. When deacons and provisional deacons serve in an agency or setting beyond the local church, the bishop, after consultation with the deacon or provisional deacon and the pastor in charge, shall appoint the deacon or provisional deacon to a local congregation where they will take missional responsibility for leading other Christians into ministries of service. In this ministry the deacons and provisional deacons shall be accountable to the pastor in charge, the charge conference, and other bodies that coordinate the ministry of the local church. In those instances where the appointment is in another episcopal area, the appointment to a local church shall be made in consultation with the bishop of that area.

6. The appointment of deacons and provisional deacons shall be made by the bishop.

a) It may be initiated by the bishop or the district superintendent, the individual deacon or provisional deacon, or the agency requesting the service of the deacon or provisional deacon. *b)* It shall be clarified by a written statement of intentionality of servant leadership in order to establish a clear distinction between the work to which all Christians are called and the work for which deacons and provisional deacons are appropriately prepared and authorized.

c) If the bishop and cabinet consider an appointment not to be in the best interest of the Church, the bishop may

Deacons and provisional deacons appointed to settings outside the annual conference in which they hold membership shall also furnish a copy of their report to the bishop of the area in which the appointment is located.

e) The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry, in order to assist the Boards of Ordained Ministry and cabinets, will provide guidelines for validating the appropriateness of appointment settings beyond the local church and will be available for consultation with bishops, cabinets, and Boards of Ordained Ministry.

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c) If the bishop and cabinet consider an appointment not to be in the best interest of the Church, the bishop may

choose not to make the appointment. In such event, the bishop shall consult with the deacon or provisional deacon and the Board of Ordained Ministry. The deacon or provisional deacon shall then seek another appointment, request a leave of absence or transitional leave, or relinquish his or her certificate of conference membership for deposit with the conference secretary, or be terminated by disciplinary procedures. The procedures for fair process in administrative hearings (§ 352.2) shall be followed in any involuntary termination procedure. *d)* Deacons and provisional deacons at their own request or with their consent may be appointed to a nonsalaried position. Such missional appointments will serve to express the Church's concern for social holiness, for ministry among the poor, and for advancing emerging needs of the future. In such cases, the bishop will carefully review plans for expressing this appointed ministry and will consult with the deacon or provisional deacon about the well-being and financial security of his or her family.

7. At the request of the deacon or provisional deacon and with the consent of the bishop and cabinet where conference membership is held, the deacon or provisional deacon may receive a less than full-time appointment under the following conditions:

a) The deacon or provisional deacon shall present a written request to the bishop, district superintendent, and the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, giving a rationale for the request at least ninety days prior to the annual conference at which the appointment is to be made.

b) Reappointment to less than full-time service shall be requested annually of the bishop by the deacon or provisional deacon.

c) The bishop may make an interim appointment to less than full-time service upon request of a deacon or provisional deacon, with the recommendation of the

choose not to make the appointment. In such event, the bishop shall consult with the deacon or provisional deacon and the Board of Ordained Ministry. The deacon or provisional deacon shall then seek another appointment, request a leave of absence or transitional leave, or relinquish his or her certificate of conference membership for deposit with the conference secretary, or be terminated by disciplinary procedures. The procedures for fair process in administrative hearings (§~~352.2~~ ~~361.2~~) shall be followed in any involuntary termination procedure. *d)* Deacons and provisional deacons at their own request or with their consent may be appointed to a nonsalaried position. Such missional appointments will serve to express the Church's concern for social holiness, for ministry among the poor, and for advancing emerging needs of the future. In such cases, the bishop will carefully review plans for expressing this appointed ministry and will consult with the deacon or provisional deacon about the well-being and financial security of his or her family.

7. At the request of the deacon or provisional deacon and with the consent of the bishop and cabinet where conference membership is held, the deacon or provisional deacon may receive a less than full-time appointment under the following conditions:

a) The deacon or provisional deacon shall present a written request to the bishop, district superintendent, and the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, giving a rationale for the request at least ninety days prior to the annual conference at which the appointment is to be made.

b) Reappointment to less than full-time service shall be requested annually of the bishop by the deacon or provisional deacon.

c) The bishop may make an interim appointment to less than full-time service upon request of a deacon or provisional deacon, with the recommendation of the

executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

8. Deacons and provisional deacons, with the approval of their bishop and the judicatory authorities of the other denomination may receive an appointment to another denomination while retaining their home conference membership. The appointment may be made in response to exceptional missional needs.

9. *Charge Conference Membership*-Deacons and provisional deacons serving in appointments outside the conference in which they hold membership shall, after consultation and with the written consent of the pastor in charge, also establish an affiliate relationship with a charge conference in the annual conference in which the appointment is located.

10. Support for deacons and provisional deacons appointed by a bishop.

a) Deacons and provisional deacons shall receive their support under the policies and agreements of the setting to which they are appointed.

b) Deacons who are appointed to a local congregation, charge, or cooperative parish, shall receive a salary from the local church, charge, or cooperative parish (§ 532.004.6.b) not less than the minimum established by the equitable compensation policy of the annual conference for elders. Provisional deacons who are appointed to a local congregation, charge, or cooperative parish shall receive a salary from the local church, charge, or cooperative parish (§532.004.6) not less than the minimum established for provisional elders. When deacons or provisional deacons are appointed to less than full-time ministry in a local congregation, charge or cooperative parish they shall receive a salary that is no less than the minimum salary for elders or provisional elders, prorated in one-quarter time increments (see § 328.001.6d).

c) Deacons and provisional deacons shall participate in the denominational pension and benefit plans and programs.

executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

8. Deacons and provisional deacons, with the approval of their bishop and the judicatory authorities of the other denomination may receive an appointment to another denomination while retaining their home conference membership. The appointment may be made in response to exceptional missional needs.

9. *Charge Conference Membership*-Deacons and provisional deacons serving in appointments outside the conference in which they hold membership shall, after consultation and with the written consent of the pastor in charge, also establish an affiliate relationship with a charge conference in the annual conference in which the appointment is located.

10. Support for deacons and provisional deacons appointed by a bishop.

a) Deacons and provisional deacons shall receive their support under the policies and agreements of the setting to which they are appointed.

b) Deacons who are appointed to a local congregation, charge, or cooperative parish, shall receive a salary from the local church, charge, or cooperative parish (§~~532.004.6~~ ~~625-2~~) not less than the minimum established by the equitable compensation policy of the annual conference for elders. Provisional deacons who are appointed to a local congregation, charge, or cooperative parish shall receive a salary from the local church, charge, or cooperative parish (§~~532.004.6~~ ~~625-2~~, ~~4~~) not less than the minimum established for provisional elders. When deacons or provisional deacons are appointed to less than full-time ministry in a local congregation, charge or cooperative parish they shall receive a salary that is no less than the minimum salary for elders or provisional elders, prorated in one-quarter time increments (see § ~~331-328.001.6d~~).

c) Deacons and provisional deacons shall participate in the denominational pension and benefit plans and programs.

<p>They shall participate in the health benefit and supplemental programs of the annual conference subject to the provisions and standards of those programs as established by the annual conference when health benefit coverage is not provided from another source.</p> <p><i>d)</i> The above (§ 10 [a-c]) does not apply to a deacon or provisional deacon appointed by a bishop to a nonsalaried position (§ 6 [d]).</p> <p><i>e)</i> Since deacons and provisional deacons are not guaranteed a place of employment in the Church, special attention shall be given to termination procedures that allow time for seeking another service appointment. Notification of dismissal shall provide for a ninety-day period prior to final termination of the appointment except for causes as listed in ¶ 2702. Deacons or provisional deacons shall not be dismissed from a local church appointment without prior consultation between the deacon or provisional deacon and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, nor without the full knowledge of the overseeing district superintendent and the presiding bishop.</p> <p>GBOD ¶328.001 = 331</p>	<p>They shall participate in the health benefit and supplemental programs of the annual conference subject to the provisions and standards of those programs as established by the annual conference when health benefit coverage is not provided from another source.</p> <p><i>d)</i> The above (§ 10 [a-c]) does not apply to a deacon or provisional deacon appointed by a bishop to a nonsalaried position (§ 6 [d]).</p> <p><i>e)</i> Since deacons and provisional deacons are not guaranteed a place of employment in the Church, special attention shall be given to termination procedures that allow time for seeking another service appointment. Notification of dismissal shall provide for a ninety-day period prior to final termination of the appointment except for causes as listed in ¶ 2702. Deacons or provisional deacons shall not be dismissed from a local church appointment without prior consultation between the deacon or provisional deacon and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, nor without the full knowledge of the overseeing district superintendent and the presiding bishop.</p>	
<p>¶329.001 In regards to ¶¶ 329, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for elders in full connection: They live with all other ordained elders in mutual trust and concern and seek with them the sanctification of the fellowship. By entering into the covenant, they accept and subject themselves to the process of clergy discipline, including serving on committees on investigation, trial courts, or appellate committees. Only those shall be elected to full membership who are of unquestionable moral character and genuine piety, sound in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, and faithful in the discharge of their duties.¹²</p> <p>GBOD ¶329.001 = 333</p> <p>¹² Judicial Council Decisions 406, 534</p>	<p>[333] ¶329.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 329, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for elders in full connection:</u> They live with all other ordained ministers <u>elders</u> in mutual trust and concern and seek with them the sanctification of the fellowship. By entering into the covenant, they accept and subject themselves to the process of clergy discipline, including serving on committees on investigation, trial courts, or appellate committees. Only those shall be elected to full membership who are of unquestionable moral character and genuine piety, sound in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, and faithful in the discharge of their duties.¹²</p> <p>¹² Judicial Council Decisions 406, 534</p>	

<p>¶330.001 In professional responsibilities according to ¶¶ 330.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>These responsibilities shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continuing availability for appointment.¹³ b) Annual participation in a process of evaluation with committees on pastor-parish relations or comparable authority as well as annual participation in a process of evaluation with the district superintendent or comparable authority. c) Evidence of continuing effectiveness reflected in annual evaluations by the pastor-parish relations committee and by the district superintendent or comparable authorities d) Growth in professional competence and effectiveness through continuing education and formation. The Board of Ordained Ministry may set the minimum standards and specific guidelines for continuing education and formation for conference members; e) Willingness to assume supervisory and mentoring responsibilities within the connection. <p>GBOD¶330.001 = 334.2 ¹³ Judicial Council Decision 492</p>	<p>[334.2] <u>¶330.001</u> In professional responsibilities according to ¶¶ 330.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>These responsibilities shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continuing availability for appointment.¹³ b) Annual participation in a process of evaluation with committees on pastor-parish relations or comparable authority as well as annual participation in a process of evaluation with the district superintendent or comparable authority. c) Evidence of continuing effectiveness reflected in annual evaluations by the pastor-parish relations committee and by the district superintendent or comparable authorities d) Growth in professional competence and effectiveness through continuing education and formation. The Board of Ordained Ministry may set the minimum standards and specific guidelines for continuing education and formation for conference members; e) Willingness to assume supervisory and mentoring responsibilities within the connection. <p>¹³ Judicial Council Decision 492</p>	
<p>¶331.001 In regards to ¶¶ 331.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for elders serving in an affiliated relationship in a missionary conference:</p> <p>that appointment is terminated by the bishop who presides in the missionary conference, then the responsibility for meeting this obligation of being continued under appointment rests with the bishop of the conference of which the elder is a member.¹⁴</p> <p>GBOD¶331.001 = 337 ¹⁴ See Judicial Council Decisions 380, 462, 492, 524, 702, 985, 1226.</p>	<p>[337] <u>¶331.001</u> In regards to ¶¶ 331.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for elders serving in an affiliated relationship in a missionary conference:</p> <p>provided that if the elder is appointed to serve in an affiliated relationship in a missionary conference (¶ 586.4b) and that appointment is terminated by the bishop who presides in the missionary conference, then the responsibility for meeting this obligation <u>of being continued under appointment</u> rests with the bishop of the conference of which the elder is a member.¹⁴</p> <p>¹⁴ See Judicial Council Decisions 380, 462, 492, 524, 702, 985, 1226.</p>	

¶331.002 In regards to appointments to extension ministries according to ¶¶ 331.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:

1. Such appointments shall be given the same moral and spiritual support by the annual conference as are persons in appointments to pastoral charges.¹⁵ Their effectiveness shall be evaluated in the context of the specific setting in which their ministry is performed. Such ministry settings shall include teaching, pastoral care and counseling, chaplaincy, campus ministry, social services, and other ministries so recognized by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and approved by the bishop.

a) Full connection and provisional member elders, associate members, and persons licensed for pastoral ministry may be appointed to Extension Ministries serving in ministries of pastoral care in specialized settings. See ¶¶ 322.001 for specific information about Extension Ministries.

b) Elders may be appointed to extension ministries that include appointments as students in research doctoral programs that may lead to appointments in academic settings as instructors or professors in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church. Elders may also be appointed to extension ministries, including service as instructors or professors or administrators in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

c) All persons in such appointments should:

(1) be appointed to a setting that provides an appropriate support and accountability structure;

(2) continue to be accountable to the annual conference for the practice of their ministry;

(3) provide an annual report, including a narrative of their ministry, evidence of continuing education, and evidence of an annual evaluation in their setting;

(4) maintain a relationship with a charge conference.

2. When either the conference member or the annual

¶331.002 In regards to appointments to extension ministries according to ¶¶ 331.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:

[337.3] 1. Such appointments shall be given the same moral and spiritual support by the annual conference as are persons in appointments to pastoral charges.¹⁵ Their effectiveness shall be evaluated in the context of the specific setting in which their ministry is performed. Such ministry settings shall include teaching, pastoral care and counseling, chaplaincy, campus ministry, social services, and other ministries so recognized by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and approved by the bishop.

a) Full connection and provisional member elders, associate members, and persons licensed for pastoral ministry may be appointed to Extension Ministries serving in ministries of pastoral care in specialized settings. See ¶¶ 322.001 326, 343-344 for specific information about Extension Ministries.

b) Elders may be appointed to extension ministries that include appointments as students in research doctoral programs that may lead to appointments in academic settings as instructors or professors in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church. Elders may also be appointed to extension ministries, including service as instructors or professors or administrators in colleges, universities, and theological schools affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

c) All persons in such appointments should:

(1) be appointed to a setting that provides an appropriate support and accountability structure;

(2) continue to be accountable to the annual conference for the practice of their ministry;

(3) provide an annual report, including a narrative of their ministry, evidence of continuing education, and evidence of an annual evaluation in their setting;

(4) maintain a relationship with a charge conference.

[344] 2. When either the conference member or the annual

conference requests appointment to a pastoral charge, the request shall be made in writing to or from the bishop, the cabinet, and the Board of Ordained Ministry. Such a request should be made at least six months prior to annual conference. In both instances, consultation shall give due regard to the individual's special training, experience, skills, and leadership potential.

3. *Categories of Appointment*-In order to establish a clear distinction between the work to which all Christians are called and the tasks for which clergy are appropriately prepared and authorized, the following categories are established for appointments of elders and associate members within the itineracy and those licensed for pastoral ministry of The United Methodist Church.

a) Appointments within the connectional structures of United Methodism:

(1) Appointments for which the annual conference provides for pension contributions to the Ministerial Pension Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Clergy Retirement Security Program, such as district superintendents, staff members of conference councils and boards, treasurers, bishops' assistants, superintendents or directors of parish development, general evangelists, and campus ministers. Only elders in full connection may be appointed district superintendents;

(2) Appointments to a general agency for which the general agency provides pension contributions through December 31, 2006 to the Ministerial Pension Plan and, effective January 1, 2007, to the Retirement Security Program for General Agencies of The United Methodist Church, amended and restated effective January 1, 2010 as the Retirement Plan for General Agencies;

(3) Appointments to a United Methodist institution or other ministry, such as superintendents or directors of parish development, general evangelists, campus ministers, missionaries, faculty and administrators of United Methodist

conference requests appointment to a pastoral charge, the request shall be made in writing to or from the bishop, the cabinet, and the Board of Ordained Ministry. Such a request should be made at least six months prior to annual conference. In both instances, consultation shall give due regard to the individual's special training, experience, skills, and leadership potential.

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(1) Appointments for which the annual conference provides for pension contributions to the Ministerial Pension Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Clergy Retirement Security Program, such as district superintendents, staff members of conference councils and boards, treasurers, bishops' assistants, superintendents or directors of parish development, general evangelists, and campus ministers. Only elders in full connection may be appointed district superintendents;

(2) Appointments to a general agency for which the general agency provides pension contributions through December 31, 2006 to the Ministerial Pension Plan and, effective January 1, 2007, to the Retirement Security Program for General Agencies of The United Methodist Church, amended and restated effective January 1, 2010 as the Retirement Plan for General Agencies;

(3) Appointments to a United Methodist institution or other ministry, such as superintendents or directors of parish development, general evangelists, campus ministers, missionaries, faculty and administrators of United Methodist

schools of theology or other educational institutions approved by the University Senate; and

(4) Appointments to an ecumenical agency.

b) Appointments to extension ministries of elders in full connection, associate members, and those licensed for pastoral ministry under endorsement by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and other ministry settings which the bishop and conference Board of Ordained Ministry may designate.³⁴ The board shall annually verify the appropriate employment of persons under its endorsement and request their reappointment.

c) Elders, associate members, and those licensed for pastoral ministry in service under the General Board of Global Ministries may be appointed to the ministries listed in *a)* and *b)* above. They may be assigned to service either in annual conferences or central conferences, or with affiliated autonomous churches, independent churches, churches resulting from the union of Methodist Churches and other communions, mission institutions, or in other denominational or ecumenical ministries. They may accept such rights and privileges, including affiliate membership, as may be offered them by central conferences or by other churches to which they are assigned without impairing their relationship to their home annual conference. If appointment is to a missionary conference, the terms of the appointment shall be as provided in ¶ 509.003.

d) Elders, associate members, and those licensed for pastoral ministry may receive appointments beyond the ministry usually extended through the local United Methodist church and other institutions listed above in *a)* and *b)*¹⁶ when considered by the bishop and the annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry to be a true extension of the Christian ministry of the Church. They may be appointed to pastoral ministry in other Christian denominations at the request of appropriate judicatory officers of that denomination. These ministries shall be initiated in missional response to the needs

schools of theology or other educational institutions approved by the University Senate; and

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b) Appointments to extension ministries of elders in full connection, associate members, and those licensed for pastoral ministry under endorsement by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and other ministry settings which the bishop and conference Board of Ordained Ministry may designate.³⁴ . Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325, 329. The board shall annually verify the appropriate employment of persons under its endorsement and request their reappointment.

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of persons in special circumstances and unique situations and shall reflect the commitment of the clergy to intentional fulfillment of their ordination vows to Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service. These appointments may involve clergy with expertise from other vocations. Conference members in such appointments retain conference membership, and the annual conference may choose to extend financial support and benefits for its clergy by vote of the annual conference. (See ¶ 532.004)

Conference members who serve as staff members of ecumenical agencies or as pastors of non-United Methodist congregations may also be considered as holding an extension ministry, provided their position is approved by the bishop and the conference Board of Ordained Ministry. They shall remain accountable to their vows as members of their annual conference.

The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, in order to assist boards of ordained ministry, will provide standards and consultation to assist in validating the appropriateness of special ministry settings. In addition, it will provide advocacy for persons serving in settings approved under this paragraph and shall encourage the development of emerging ministries that extend the ministry of the Church into the world.

Those seeking such an appointment shall submit a written statement to the cabinet, and the Board of Ordained Ministry, describing in detail the proposed setting for their ministry, sharing a sense of calling to that ministry and their gifts and evidence of God's grace for it, and expressing the intentional fulfillment of their ordination vows. This material will be submitted not later than 120 days before desired appointment to the proposed setting. On recommendation of the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry, such positions are to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the clergy members of the annual conference.

The bishop may make *ad interim* appointments in this

of persons in special circumstances and unique situations and shall reflect the commitment of the clergy to intentional fulfillment of their ordination vows to Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service. These appointments may involve clergy with expertise from other vocations. Conference members in such appointments retain conference membership, and the annual conference may choose to extend financial support and benefits for its clergy by vote of the annual conference. (See ¶ ~~532.004~~ ~~625.3, .5.~~)

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The bishop may make *ad interim* appointments in this

category after consultation with the cabinet and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the position to be formally acted upon by the next session of the annual conference.

*4. Relation to the Annual Conference-a) Accountability to the Annual Conference-*All clergy in extension ministries are amenable to the annual conference of which they are members and insofar as possible should maintain close working relationship with and effective participation in the work of their annual conference, assuming whatever responsibilities they are qualified and requested to assume.

All clergy under appointment in extension ministries shall submit annually to the bishop, the district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry a written report on the official form developed for the Church by the General Council on Finance and Administration for use by the annual conference. This report shall serve as the basis for the evaluation of these clergy in light of the missional needs of the Church and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination to be minister of Service, Word, Sacrament, and Order. All clergy formally evaluated by the institutions in which they serve will provide, instead of an evaluation, a narrative report reflecting their ministry. All clergy serving in appointments outside the conference in which they hold membership shall furnish a copy of their report also to the bishop of the area in which they serve. Annual conferences shall review the qualifications of persons in extension ministry status and integrate them into the ongoing work of the annual conference.

*b) Responsibility of the Annual Conference-*The bishop, representatives of the cabinet, and an endorsed representative from extension ministries within the Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide an opportunity to meet annually with clergy in extension ministries who perform their ministry within the bounds of annual conference, both of that annual conference and those who hold membership elsewhere. The bishop shall convene the meeting, which is to be planned by

category after consultation with the cabinet and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the position to be formally acted upon by the next session of the annual conference.

~~4.2.~~ *Relation to the Annual Conference-a) Accountability to the Annual Conference-*All clergy in extension ministries are amenable to the annual conference of which they are members and insofar as possible should maintain close working relationship with and effective participation in the work of their annual conference, assuming whatever responsibilities they are qualified and requested to assume.

All clergy under appointment in extension ministries shall submit annually to the bishop, the district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry a written report on the official form developed for the Church by the General Council on Finance and Administration for use by the annual conference. This report shall serve as the basis for the evaluation of these clergy in light of the missional needs of the Church and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination to be minister of Service, Word, Sacrament, and Order. All clergy formally evaluated by the institutions in which they serve will provide, instead of an evaluation, a narrative report reflecting their ministry. All clergy serving in appointments outside the conference in which they hold membership shall furnish a copy of their report also to the bishop of the area in which they serve. Annual conferences shall review the qualifications of persons in extension ministry status and integrate them into the ongoing work of the annual conference.

*b) Responsibility of the Annual Conference-*The bishop, representatives of the cabinet, and an endorsed representative from extension ministries within the Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide an opportunity to meet annually with clergy in extension ministries who perform their ministry within the bounds of annual conference, both of that annual conference and those who hold membership elsewhere. The bishop shall convene the meeting, which is to be planned by

the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry. The purpose of this meeting is to gain understanding of one another's role and function in ministry; to report to other ordained ministers appointed to extension ministries and discuss with them matters concerning the overall approach to ministry in the episcopal area; to interpret the role and function of extension ministries to the larger church through the offices of the bishop and his or her representatives; to nurture the development of various ministries as significant in assisting the mission of the Church; and to discuss specific programs and services that the bishop and his or her representatives may initiate, in which the various ordained ministers serving in appointments beyond the local church may be qualified as consultants and supervisors. Using the appropriate resources and personnel of the annual conference, the bishop shall provide for an annual visit to the ministry setting of all persons under appointment in extension ministries assigned within the geographical bounds of the annual conference and shall provide a report of the visit to the bishop of persons from other annual conferences.

5. Relation to the Local Church-a) All clergy appointed in extension ministries shall establish membership in a charge conference in their home annual conference in consultation with the pastor in charge and with approval of the district superintendent and the bishop. They shall submit to their home charge conference an annual report of pastoral duties and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination through their special appointment, including ministerial activities in the charge where they have an affiliate membership relation and in other units of the Church at large, as well as continuing formation experiences completed and anticipated. This report may be the one submitted to the bishop, district superintendent, and Board of Ordained Ministry (§ 331.002.4a). District superintendents, because of the nature of their work and the relationship defined in §§ 415, 353.2, and 551.001, shall not be required to have a charge conference affiliation.

All conference members who are elders in full connection,

the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry. The purpose of this meeting is to gain understanding of one another's role and function in ministry; to report to other ordained ministers appointed to extension ministries and discuss with them matters concerning the overall approach to ministry in the episcopal area; to interpret the role and function of extension ministries to the larger church through the offices of the bishop and his or her representatives; to nurture the development of various ministries as significant in assisting the mission of the Church; and to discuss specific programs and services that the bishop and his or her representatives may initiate, in which the various ordained ministers serving in appointments beyond the local church may be qualified as consultants and supervisors. Using the appropriate resources and personnel of the annual conference, the bishop shall provide for an annual visit to the ministry setting of all persons under appointment in extension ministries assigned within the geographical bounds of the annual conference and shall provide a report of the visit to the bishop of persons from other annual conferences.

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including those in extension ministries, shall be available and on call to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper as required by the *Discipline* (§ 334.2a) and requested by the district superintendent of the district in which the appointment is held.

b) Affiliate Relation to a Local Church-All clergy under appointment to extension ministries and serving outside of the geographical bounds of their home annual conference shall promptly notify the bishop of the area in which they reside of their names, addresses, and the annual conferences in which their credentials are held. They shall be affiliate members without vote of a charge conference either within the district where they carry out the primary work of their appointment or within the district where they reside. Persons serving outside the geographic bounds of any annual conference are exempt from this requirement. The selection of the charge conference shall be made after consultation between the person in extension ministry and the pastor of the local United Methodist church.

These clergy under appointment in extension ministries and serving outside the geographical boundaries of their home annual conference shall submit to the charge conference of which they are affiliate members a copy of the report submitted to their home charge conference and/or an oral report concerning their ministry and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination. The district superintendent shall be responsible for the notification to these ministers concerning the time and place of the charge conference.

6. Affiliate Relation to Annual Conference-Ordained clergy appointed to extension ministries or appointments beyond the local church outside the boundary of their annual conference may at their own initiative apply to the Board of Ordained Ministry for affiliate membership in the annual conference in which their appointment is located or in which they reside. By a two-thirds vote of the clergy session, such clergy may be received with rights and privileges, including service on

All conference members who are elders in full connection, including those in extension ministries, shall be available and on call to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper as required by the *Discipline* (§ ~~340.~~334.2a) and requested by the district superintendent of the district in which the appointment is held.

b) Affiliate Relation to a Local Church-All clergy under appointment to extension ministries and serving outside of the geographical bounds of their home annual conference shall promptly notify the bishop of the area in which they reside of their names, addresses, and the annual conferences in which their credentials are held. They shall be affiliate members without vote of a charge conference either within the district where they carry out the primary work of their appointment or within the district where they reside. Persons serving outside the geographic bounds of any annual conference are exempt from this requirement. The selection of the charge conference shall be made after consultation between the person in extension ministry and the pastor of the local United Methodist church.

These clergy under appointment in extension ministries and serving outside the geographical boundaries of their home annual conference shall submit to the charge conference of which they are affiliate members a copy of the report submitted to their home charge conference and/or an oral report concerning their ministry and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination. The district superintendent shall be responsible for the notification to these ministers concerning the time and place of the charge conference.

6.4. *Affiliate Relation to Annual Conference*-Ordained clergy appointed to extension ministries or appointments beyond the local church outside the boundary of their annual conference may at their own initiative apply to the Board of Ordained Ministry for affiliate membership in the annual conference in which their appointment is located or in which they reside. By a two-thirds vote of the clergy session, such

conference boards, agencies, task forces, and committees, with voice and vote but with voice and without vote in the annual conference session. Voting membership shall be retained in the appointee's home annual conference for the duration of affiliate member relationship. Nomination to general Church boards and agencies and election as delegates to General and jurisdictional conferences shall originate in the appointee's home annual conference. Such persons may serve on the board, agency, task force, or committee of only one annual conference at any one time.¹⁷

7. *General Provisions-a)* These appointments shall be made only to positions related to adequate accountability structures, according to guidelines established by the Board of Ordained Ministry and cabinet in the annual conferences in which membership is held.

b) For information regarding pensions, the conference will continue to list the source of annuity claim for each of its clergy.

c) All conference secretaries shall submit to the editors of the General Minutes a list of such appointments beyond the local church made in their annual conferences, and there shall be published in the General Minutes a list of ordained ministers in the Church serving in the major categories under these appointments.

d) All clergy appointed to extension ministries shall attend the annual conference in which membership is held.

e) Individual participation in Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard units and part-time employment with the Veteran's Administration shall be reflected in annual conference journals.

8. United Methodist clergy members in full connection may be appointed annually to churches of other Christian denominations or to ecumenical shared ministries. Persons in these appointments remain in the itineracy and shall be accountable to the annual conference. Their effectiveness shall be evaluated in the context of the specific setting in which their

clergy may be received with rights and privileges, including service on conference boards, agencies, task forces, and committees, with voice and vote but with voice and without vote in the annual conference session. Voting membership shall be retained in the appointee's home annual conference for the duration of affiliate member relationship. Nomination to general Church boards and agencies and election as delegates to General and jurisdictional conferences shall originate in the appointee's home annual conference. Such persons may serve on the board, agency, task force, or committee of only one annual conference at any one time.¹⁷

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c) All conference secretaries shall submit to the editors of the General Minutes a list of such appointments beyond the local church made in their annual conferences, and there shall be published in the General Minutes a list of ordained ministers in the Church serving in the major categories under these appointments.

d) All clergy appointed to extension ministries shall attend the annual conference in which membership is held.

e) Individual participation in Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard units and part-time employment with the Veteran's Administration shall be reflected in annual conference journals.

[345] 8. United Methodist clergy members in full connection may be appointed annually to churches of other Christian denominations or to ecumenical shared ministries. Persons in these appointments remain in the itineracy and shall be accountable to the annual conference. Their effectiveness

<p>ministry is performed. (See ¶ 331.002.2)</p> <p>GBOD¶331.002 = 347.3, 344, 345</p> <p>¹⁵ Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325</p> <p>¹⁶ Judicial Council Decision 554</p> <p>¹⁷ Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325, 329</p>	<p>shall be evaluated in the context of the specific setting in which their ministry is performed. (See ¶ <u>331.002.2</u> 344.1[d].)</p> <p>¹⁵ Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325</p> <p>¹⁶ Judicial Council Decision 554</p> <p>¹⁷ Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325, 329</p>	
<p>¶332.001. In regards to ¶¶ 332.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Interim appointments may be made to charges that have special transitional needs.</p> <p>a) Interim clergy may serve outside the annual conference where membership is held under the provision of ¶ 336.1, with approval and consent of the bishops involved.</p> <p>b) Interim appointments will be for a specified length of time, established in advance following consultation with the district superintendent, the pastor-parish relations committee, and the interim pastor.</p> <p>2. Associate members, provisional members, or full members may be appointed to attend any school, college, or theological seminary listed by the University Senate, or participate in a program of clinical pastoral education in a setting accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education or another accrediting agency approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p>GBOD¶332.001 = 338.3-4</p>	<p>¶332.001. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 332.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[338.3-4] <u>1.3.</u> Interim appointments may be made to charges that have special transitional needs.</p> <p>a) Interim clergy may serve outside the annual conference where membership is held under the provision of ¶ <u>336.1</u> 346.1, with approval and consent of the bishops involved.</p> <p>b) Interim appointments will be for a specified length of time, established in advance following consultation with the district superintendent, the pastor-parish relations committee, and the interim pastor.</p> <p><u>2.4.</u> Associate members, provisional members, or full members may be appointed to attend any school, college, or theological seminary listed by the University Senate, or participate in a program of clinical pastoral education in a setting accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education or another accrediting agency approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p>	
<p>¶332.002. In regards to ¶¶ 332.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>Full-time service shall be the norm.</p> <p>GBOD¶332.002 = 338.1</p>	<p>¶332.002. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 332.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[338.1] Full-time service shall be the norm.</p>	
<p>¶332.003. In regards to ¶¶ 332.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. <i>Less Than Full-Time Service</i>—On occasion, less than</p>	<p>[338.2] ¶332.003. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 332.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. <i>Less Than Full-Time Service</i></u>—On occasion, less than</p>	

full-time service is requested by or required of an elder, provisional elder, or associate member. A clergy member may be appointed in one-quarter, one-half, or three-quarter time increments by the bishop to less than full-time service without loss of essential rights or membership in the annual conference. Division of Ordained Ministry-endorsed appointments beyond the local church may be for less than full-time service.

Appointment to less than full-time service is not a guarantee, but may be made by the bishop under the following circumstances:

a) Limited Itineracy—Less than full-time service may be granted—but is not guaranteed—when the elder, provisional elder, or associate member has declared in writing that itineracy is limited due to temporary constraints. The clergy member shall present that written declaration to the bishop and the chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is made.

b) Self-Initiated-- The elder, provisional elder, or associate member seeking less than full-time service shall present a written request to the bishop and the chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry at least 90 days prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is made. Exceptions to the 90-day deadline shall be approved by the cabinet and the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

c) Bishop-Initiated--For missional purposes, the bishop may appoint an elder, provisional elder, or an associate member to less than full-time service. The clergyperson shall be notified at least 90 days prior to final termination of the current appointment. Special attention shall be given to ensure that the values of open itineracy are preserved.

2. Provisions for Less Than Full-time Appointment

a) Following appropriate consultation, as established in ¶¶ 332 and 406.002, and upon joint recommendation of the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry, the less than full-

full-time service is requested by or required of an elder, provisional elder, or associate member. A clergy member may be appointed in one-quarter, one-half, or three-quarter time increments by the bishop to less than full-time service without loss of essential rights or membership in the annual conference. Division of Ordained Ministry-endorsed appointments beyond the local church may be for less than full-time service.

a) Appointment to less than full-time service is not a guarantee, but may be made by the bishop under the following circumstances:

a)(1) Limited Itineracy—Less than full-time service may be granted—but is not guaranteed—when the elder, provisional elder, or associate member has declared in writing that itineracy is limited due to temporary constraints. The clergy member shall present that written declaration to the bishop and the chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is made.

b)(2) Self-Initiated-- The elder, provisional elder, or associate member seeking less than full-time service shall present a written request to the bishop and the chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry at least 90 days prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is made. Exceptions to the 90-day deadline shall be approved by the cabinet and the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

c)(3) Bishop-Initiated--For missional purposes, the bishop may appoint an elder, provisional elder, or an associate member to less than full-time service. The clergyperson shall be notified at least 90 days prior to final termination of the current appointment. Special attention shall be given to ensure that the values of open itineracy are preserved.

2.b) Provisions for Less Than Full-time Appointment

a)(1) Following appropriate consultation, as established in ¶¶ 332 and 406.002 ~~338 and 425-429~~, and upon joint recommendation of the cabinet and the Board of Ordained

<p>time category shall be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference.</p> <p>b) Reappointment to less than full-time service shall be approved annually by the bishop and cabinet and shall not be granted for more than a total of eight years, except by a three-fourths vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference.</p> <p>c) Elders, provisional elders, and associate members who receive appointment at less than full-time service remain within the itineracy and, as such, remain available, upon consultation with the bishop and cabinet, for appointment to full-time service. A written request to return to full-time appointment shall be made to the bishop and cabinet at least six months prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is to be made.</p> <p>d) The bishop may make <i>ad interim</i> appointments at less than full-time service upon request of the elder, provisional elder, or associate member following consultation as specified in ¶ 406.002 and upon recommendation of the cabinet and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the same to be acted upon by the next regular session of the annual conference.¹⁸</p> <p>GBOD ¶332.003 = 338.2 ¹⁸ Judicial Council Decision 579</p>	<p>Ministry, the less than full-time category shall be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference.</p> <p>b)(2) Reappointment to less than full-time service shall be approved annually by the bishop and cabinet and shall not be granted for more than a total of eight years, except by a three-fourths vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference.</p> <p>c)(3) Elders, provisional elders, and associate members who receive appointment at less than full-time service remain within the itineracy and, as such, remain available, upon consultation with the bishop and cabinet, for appointment to full-time service. A written request to return to full-time appointment shall be made to the bishop and cabinet at least six months prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is to be made.</p> <p>d)(4) The bishop may make <i>ad interim</i> appointments at less than full-time service upon request of the elder, provisional elder, or associate member following consultation as specified in ¶ 406.002 424-428 and upon recommendation of the cabinet and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the same to be acted upon by the next regular session of the annual conference.¹⁸</p> <p>¹⁸ Judicial Council Decision 579</p>	
<p>¶333.001 In regards to ¶¶ 333, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: A pastor may be appointed to a station, circuit, cooperative parish, extension ministry, ecumenical shared ministry, or to a church of another denomination, or on the staff of one such appointment. <i>Ecumenical shared ministries</i> are ecumenical congregations formed by a local United Methodist church and one or more local congregations of other Christian traditions. Forms of ecumenical shared ministries include: (a) a federated congregation, in which one congregation is related to two</p>	<p>¶333.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 333, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> [339] A pastor may be appointed to a station, circuit, cooperative parish, extension ministry, ecumenical shared ministry³³, or to a church of another denomination, or on the staff of one such appointment. [208] <i>Ecumenical shared ministries</i> are ecumenical congregations formed by a local United Methodist church and one or more local congregations of other Christian traditions. Forms of ecumenical shared ministries include: (a) a federated congregation, in which one congregation is related to two</p>	

<p>denominations, with persons holding membership in one or the other of the denominations; (b) a union congregation, in which a congregation with one unified membership roll is related to two denominations; (c) a merged congregation, in which two or more congregations of different denominations form one congregation which relates to only one of the constituent denominations; and (d) a yoked parish, in which a United Methodist congregation is yoked with one or more congregations of other denominations.</p> <p>GBOD ¶333.001 = 339 and 208</p>	<p>denominations, with persons holding membership in one or the other of the denominations; (b) a union congregation, in which a congregation with one unified membership roll is related to two denominations; (c) a merged congregation, in which two or more congregations of different denominations form one congregation which relates to only one of the constituent denominations; and (d) a yoked parish, in which a United Methodist congregation is yoked with one or more congregations of other denominations.</p>	
<p>¶334.001 In regards to ¶¶ 334.2c(2)(b), the following additional regulations shall be implemented: The account shall be given according to the prescribed forms.</p> <p>GBOD ¶334.001= 340.2c(2)(b)</p>	<p><u>¶334.001</u> In regards to ¶¶ 334.2c(2)(b), the following additional regulations shall be implemented: [340.2c(2)(b)] The account shall be given according to the prescribed forms.</p>	
<p>¶335.001 In regards to ¶¶ 335.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented No pastor shall hold a religious service within the bounds of a pastoral charge or establish a ministry to a college or university campus served by The United Methodist Church without the consent of the pastor of the charge, or campus minister or chaplain serving the charge, or the district superintendent. If that pastor does not refrain from such conduct, he or she shall then be liable to the provisions of ¶¶ 353.1 and 2702.</p> <p>GBOD ¶335.001= 341.4</p>	<p><u>¶335.001</u> In regards to ¶¶ 335.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented [341.4] No pastor shall hold a religious service within the bounds of a pastoral charge or establish a ministry to a college or university campus served by The United Methodist Church without the consent of the pastor of the charge, or campus minister or chaplain serving the charge, or the district superintendent. If that pastor does not refrain from such conduct, he or she shall then be liable to the provisions of ¶¶ 353 362.1 and 2702.</p>	
<p>¶336.001 In regards to ¶¶ 336.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: Appointments are to be made by the resident bishop of the conference in which the clergy person is to serve. If appointment is to a missionary conference, the terms of the appointment shall be as provided in ¶ 509.003. Otherwise upon the recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, clergy in such appointments may be granted voice but not vote in the</p>	<p><u>¶336.001</u> In regards to ¶¶ 336.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: [346.1] Appointments are to be made by the resident bishop of the conference in which the clergy person is to serve. If appointment is to a missionary conference, the terms of the appointment shall be as provided in ¶ 509.003586.4. Otherwise upon the recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, clergy in such appointments may be granted voice but not vote</p>	

<p>annual conference to which they are appointed. Their membership on conference boards and agencies is restricted to the conference of which they are a member. They shall be compensated no less than the equitable salary provisions of the annual conference in which they serve and participate in the pension and insurance programs of that annual conference. Such appointments are renewable annually. Furthermore, it shall be the responsibility of the board of pensions of the annual conference in which the appointment is received to enroll such clergy in the Clergy Retirement Security Program or any successor retirement plan and the Comprehensive Protection Plan or any successor welfare plan (see BOD ¶ 1506.20).¹⁹</p> <p>GBOD ¶336.001 = 346.1 ¹⁹ Judicial Council Decision 554</p>	<p>in the annual conference to which they are appointed. Their membership on conference boards and agencies is restricted to the conference of which they are a member. They shall be compensated no less than the equitable salary provisions of the annual conference in which they serve and participate in the pension and insurance programs of that annual conference. Such appointments are renewable annually. Furthermore, it shall be the responsibility of the board of pensions of the annual conference in which the appointment is received to enroll such clergy in the Clergy Retirement Security Program or any successor retirement plan and the Comprehensive Protection Plan or any successor welfare plan (see BOD ¶ 1506.20).¹⁹</p> <p>¹⁹ Judicial Council Decision 554</p>	
<p>¶336.002 In regards to ¶¶ 336.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented</p> <p>1. Such clergy shall also be subject to the provisions governing sabbatical leave, leave of absence, location, retirement, minimum salary, and pension. They shall not have security of appointment.²⁰</p> <p>2. Between conference sessions, the Board of Ordained Ministry may approve them for appointment pending the recognition of their orders. The bishop may make <i>ad interim</i> recognition of valid ordination after consultation with the cabinet and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, pending recognition by the vote of the clergy members in full connection. In every case, prior examination shall be made of the ordained minister's understanding, acceptance, and willingness to support and maintain United Methodist doctrine, discipline, and polity.²¹</p> <p>GBOD ¶336.002= 346.2 ²⁰ Judicial Council Decision 16 ²¹ Judicial Council Decision 444</p>	<p>¶336.002 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 336.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented</u></p> <p><u>1. Such clergy</u> They [346.2] shall also be subject to the provisions governing sabbatical leave, leave of absence, location, retirement, minimum salary, and pension. They shall not have security of appointment.²⁰</p> <p>2.<u>3.</u> Between conference sessions, the Board of Ordained Ministry may approve them for appointment pending the recognition of their orders. The bishop may make <i>ad interim</i> recognition of valid ordination after consultation with the cabinet and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, pending recognition by the vote of the clergy members in full connection. In every case, prior examination shall be made of the ordained minister's understanding, acceptance, and willingness to support and maintain United Methodist doctrine, discipline, and polity.²¹</p> <p>²⁰ Judicial Council Decision 16 ²¹ Judicial Council Decision 444</p>	

<p>¶337.001 In regards to ¶¶ 337.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall establish a list of denominations that meet this definition. Prior consultation with the chairperson or executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry shall be held in order to determine that the minister meets the standards for conference membership established by the <i>Discipline</i> and the annual conference. A psychological report, criminal background and credit check, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse shall be required. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) a notarized statement certifying that this candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse.</p> <p>2. Ordained elders or ordained clergy being transferred from other Methodist churches shall meet the educational requirements of The United Methodist Church, or the equivalent approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p>3. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall certify the satisfaction of educational requirements for conference membership and, in cases where additional education is required, shall develop an educational program in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>GBOD¶337.001 = 347.2</p>	<p>¶337.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 337.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[347.2] 1. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall establish a list of denominations that meet this definition. Prior consultation with the chairperson or executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry shall be held in order to determine that the minister meets the standards for conference membership established by the <i>Discipline</i> and the annual conference. A psychological report, criminal background and credit check, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse shall be required. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a)(1) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b)(2) a notarized statement certifying that this candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2.b) Ordained elders or ordained clergy being transferred from other Methodist churches shall meet the educational requirements of The United Methodist Church, or the equivalent approved by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3.e) The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall certify the satisfaction of educational requirements for conference membership and, in cases where additional education is required, shall develop an educational program in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry.</p>	
<p>¶337.002 In regards to ¶¶ 337.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for clergy from other denominations:</p> <p>They shall and present a satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the</p>	<p>¶337.002 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 337.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for clergy from other denominations:</u></p> <p>[347.3] They shall and present a satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved</p>	

<p>Board of Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry, in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, shall determine whether they meet the educational requirements for conference membership. A psychological report, criminal background and credit check, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse shall be required. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct of child abuse; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) a notarized statement certifying that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse.</p> <p>GBOD ¶337.002 = 347.3</p>	<p>by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry, in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, shall determine whether they meet the educational requirements for conference membership. A psychological report, criminal background and credit check, and reports of sexual misconduct and/or child abuse shall be required. They shall submit, on a form provided by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a)(1) a notarized statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct of child abuse; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b)(2) a notarized statement certifying that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse.</p>	
<p>¶338.001 In regards to ¶¶ 338.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. There are two categories of mentor, each with distinct functions and responsibilities as follows:</p> <p>a) Candidacy mentors are clergy in full connection, associate members, or local pastors who have completed the Course of Study trained to provide counsel and guidance related to the candidacy process. Candidates will be assigned to a candidacy mentoring group, wherever possible, or to a candidacy mentor by the district committee on ordained ministry in consultation with the vocational discernment coordinator (wherever named) and the district superintendent (¶ 309). Candidates will be assigned to a candidacy mentor or mentoring groups to meet with until they begin serving as a local pastor or provisional member.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) Clergy mentors are clergy in full connection, associate members, full-time, or part-time local pastors who have completed the Course of Study trained to provide ongoing oversight and counsel with local pastors and with provisional</p>	<p>¶338.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 338.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[348] <u>1.</u> There are two categories of mentor, each with distinct functions and responsibilities as follows:</p> <p>a) Candidacy mentors are clergy in full connection, associate members, or local pastors who have completed the Course of Study trained to provide counsel and guidance related to the candidacy process. Candidates will be assigned to a candidacy mentoring group, wherever possible, or to a candidacy mentor by the district committee on ordained ministry in consultation with the vocational discernment coordinator (wherever named) and the district superintendent (¶ 309 340). Candidates will be assigned to a candidacy mentor or mentoring groups to meet with until they begin serving as a local pastor or provisional member.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) Clergy mentors are clergy in full connection, associate members, full-time, or part-time local pastors who have completed the Course of Study trained to provide ongoing oversight and counsel with local pastors and with provisional</p>	

<p>members. Local pastors will be assigned a clergy mentor by the district committee on ordained ministry in consultation with the district superintendent. Provisional members will be assigned a clergy mentor in full connection by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry in consultation with the district superintendent. A candidacy mentor may continue with the same person if trained to serve as a clergy mentor.</p> <p>2. Local pastors and provisional members will be assigned to a clergy mentoring group, wherever possible, or to a clergy mentor by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Persons transferring from other denominations will also be assigned a clergy mentor (§ 337.3.b).</p> <p>3. Clergy mentoring begins when a person receives an appointment as a local pastor or as a provisional member.</p> <p>4. It is expected that all annual conferences will make available and encourage the use of spiritual guides, life coaches, pastoral counselors or vocational mentors for all clergy, separate from the superintendent, and that clergy will utilize these kinds of support as a standard practice of ministry throughout the clergy career, and in all assignments or appointments.</p> <p>GBOD §338.001 = 348</p>	<p>members. Local pastors will be assigned a clergy mentor by the district committee on ordained ministry in consultation with the district superintendent. Provisional members will be assigned a clergy mentor in full connection by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry in consultation with the district superintendent. A candidacy mentor may continue with the same person if trained to serve as a clergy mentor.</p> <p>2.3. Local pastors and provisional members will be assigned to a clergy mentoring group, wherever possible, or to a clergy mentor by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Persons transferring from other denominations will also be assigned a clergy mentor (§ 347337.3.b).</p> <p>3.4. Clergy mentoring begins when a person receives an appointment as a local pastor or as a provisional member.</p> <p>4. It is expected that all annual conferences will make available and encourage the use of spiritual guides, life coaches, pastoral counselors or vocational mentors for all clergy, separate from the superintendent, and that clergy will utilize these kinds of support as a standard practice of ministry throughout the clergy career, and in all assignments or appointments.</p>	
<p>§339.001 In regards to §§ 339.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented</p> <p>1. The clergy in local churches shall participate annually in an evaluation with the committee on pastor-parish relations to enhance an ongoing effective ministry and to identify continuing education needs and plans (§ 231.004.3g[5]), using criteria, processes, and training developed by the Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet. The process of evaluation shall include self-assessment and appropriate metrics, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry will offer models to guide cabinets and Boards of Ordained Ministry in the evaluation process.</p>	<p>§339.001 <u>In regards to §§ 339.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented</u></p> <p>[349] <u>1.</u> The clergy in local churches shall participate annually in an evaluation with the committee on pastor-parish relations to enhance an ongoing effective ministry and to identify continuing education needs and plans (§ 258.2g[5]), <u>231.004.3g[5]</u>), using criteria, processes, and training developed by the Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet. The process of evaluation shall include self-assessment and appropriate metrics, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry will offer models to guide cabinets and Boards of Ordained Ministry in the evaluation process.</p>	

<p>2. Deacons in appointments beyond the local church and elders and local pastors in appointments to extension ministries will undergo annual evaluation by their immediate supervisors, engage in annual self-evaluation, and include copies of these evaluations in the annual report submitted to their bishop, district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry (§ 331.002.2a). They shall have an annual conversation with their district superintendent about their ministry.</p> <p>3. Every clergyperson shall also engage in a six-month process of personal and professional assessment and development every eight years. The process will be designed and implemented by the cabinet and Board of Ordained Ministry for each annual conference in consultation with the Chairs of the Orders of Deacons and Elders and Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members. The process shall include both a formal review and an in-depth renewal opportunity, such as a retreat or series of coaching and mentoring sessions.</p> <p>a. The formal review shall include a self-evaluation, metrics appropriate to the ministry settings to which clergy are appointed, observations of trends from the previous eight years, and reviews or interviews with people close to the ministry of the clergy being reviewed.</p> <p>b. The in-depth renewal opportunity shall be designed by the cabinet and Board of Ordained Ministry in a form appropriate to the conference. The renewal opportunities shall include a combination of elements, such as: time apart for prayer and reflection, reflection with a covenant group, meetings with a coach, celebration of ministry milestones, and discernment of future ministry challenges and opportunities. When deemed important to help in the evaluation process, psychological assessments may be requested by the cabinet or Board of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>c. The district superintendent shall review the portfolio and provide the initial report of the eighth year review of</p>	<p>2. Deacons in appointments beyond the local church and elders and local pastors in appointments to extension ministries will undergo annual evaluation by their immediate supervisors, engage in annual self-evaluation, and include copies of these evaluations in the annual report submitted to their bishop, district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry (§ <u>331.002.344.2a</u>). They shall have an annual conversation with their district superintendent about their ministry.</p> <p>3. Every clergyperson shall also engage in a six-month process of personal and professional assessment and development every eight years. The process will be designed and implemented by the cabinet and Board of Ordained Ministry for each annual conference in consultation with the Chairs of the Orders of Deacons and Elders and Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members. The process shall include both a formal review and an in-depth renewal opportunity, such as a retreat or series of coaching and mentoring sessions.</p> <p>a. The formal review shall include a self-evaluation, metrics appropriate to the ministry settings to which clergy are appointed, observations of trends from the previous eight years, and reviews or interviews with people close to the ministry of the clergy being reviewed.</p> <p>b. The in-depth renewal opportunity shall be designed by the cabinet and Board of Ordained Ministry in a form appropriate to the conference. The renewal opportunities shall include a combination of elements, such as: time apart for prayer and reflection, reflection with a covenant group, meetings with a coach, celebration of ministry milestones, and discernment of future ministry challenges and opportunities. When deemed important to help in the evaluation process, psychological assessments may be requested by the cabinet or Board of Ordained Ministry.</p> <p>c. The district superintendent shall review the portfolio and provide the initial report of the eighth year review of</p>	
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<p>effectiveness. When recommended by the district superintendent, a meeting with the bishop and members of the cabinet may be held.</p> <p>d. Each annual conference shall develop and initiate a plan for such assessment by January 1, 2020.</p> <p>GBOD ¶339.001 = 349</p>	<p>effectiveness. When recommended by the district superintendent, a meeting with the bishop and members of the cabinet may be held.</p> <p>d. Each annual conference shall develop and initiate a plan for such assessment by January 1, 2020.</p>	
<p>¶340.001 In regards to ¶¶ 340, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Continuing education and spiritual growth shall include carefully developed personal programs of study augmented periodically by involvement in organized educational and spiritual growth activities. These practices embody the Wesleyan emphasis on lifelong growth in faith, fostered by personal spiritual practices and participation in covenant communities. Each annual conference, through the Chairs of the Clergy Orders and Fellowship or other leaders designated by the bishop, shall provide spiritual enrichment opportunities and covenant groups for deacons, elders, and local pastors.</p> <p>2. A clergy member’s continuing education and spiritual growth program shall include professional formation leaves at least one week each year and may include at least one month during one year of every quadrennium. Such leaves shall not be considered as part of the ministers’ vacations and shall be planned in consultation with their charges or other agencies to which they are appointed as well as the bishop, district superintendent, and annual conference continuing education committee.</p> <p>3. A clergy member may request a formational and spiritual growth leave of up to six months while continuing to hold an appointment in the local church. Such leaves are available to clergy members who have held full-time appointments for at least six years. Such a leave shall be with the approval of the committee on pastor-parish relations, the church council, and the district superintendent. Annual conferences are encouraged to assist with pulpit supply and other temporary support for</p>	<p><u>¶340.001 In regards to ¶¶ 340, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>[350]-This-1. Continuing education and spiritual growth shall include carefully developed personal programs of study augmented periodically by involvement in organized educational and spiritual growth activities. These practices embody the Wesleyan emphasis on lifelong growth in faith, fostered by personal spiritual practices and participation in covenant communities. Each annual conference, through the Chairs of the Clergy Orders and Fellowship or other leaders designated by the bishop, shall provide spiritual enrichment opportunities and covenant groups for deacons, elders, and local pastors.</u></p> <p>2. A clergy member’s continuing education and spiritual growth program shall include professional formation leaves at least one week each year and may include at least one month during one year of every quadrennium. Such leaves shall not be considered as part of the ministers’ vacations and shall be planned in consultation with their charges or other agencies to which they are appointed as well as the bishop, district superintendent, and annual conference continuing education committee.</p> <p>3. A clergy member may request a formational and spiritual growth leave of up to six months while continuing to hold an appointment in the local church. Such leaves are available to clergy members who have held full-time appointments for at least six years. Such a leave shall be with the approval of the committee on pastor-parish relations, the church council, and the district superintendent. Annual conferences are encouraged</p>	

<p>such leaves.</p> <p>4. Financial arrangements for continuing education as part of one's professional development, formation, and spiritual growth shall be negotiated in the following manner: (a) for elders and local pastors it shall be done in consultation with the district superintendent and the committee on pastor-parish relations; (b) for deacons, with an appropriate supervisory body; (c) for district superintendents, with the district committee on superintendency; (d) for conference staff, with the appropriate supervisory body; (e) for others in extension ministries or appointments beyond the local church, with the appropriate persons in their agency.</p> <p>5. Clergy shall be asked by the district superintendent in the charge conference to report on their programs of continuing education, formation, and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come. The district superintendent shall also ask the local church to describe its provision for time and financial support of continuing education for ministry, professional development, formation and spiritual growth for the pastors, diaconal ministers and deacons serving their primary appointment in that local church.</p> <p>6. Clergy in extension ministries and appointments beyond the local church shall give evidence of their continuing formation and spiritual growth program and future plans in their annual reports (§ 331.002.2a).</p> <p>GBOD §340.001 = 350</p>	<p>to assist with pulpit supply and other temporary support for such leaves.</p> <p>4. Financial arrangements for continuing education as part of one's professional development, formation, and spiritual growth shall be negotiated in the following manner: (a) for elders and local pastors it shall be done in consultation with the district superintendent and the committee on pastor-parish relations; (b) for deacons, with an appropriate supervisory body; (c) for district superintendents, with the district committee on superintendency; (d) for conference staff, with the appropriate supervisory body; (e) for others in extension ministries or appointments beyond the local church, with the appropriate persons in their agency.</p> <p>5. Clergy shall be asked by the district superintendent in the charge conference to report on their programs of continuing education, formation, and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come. The district superintendent shall also ask the local church to describe its provision for time and financial support of continuing education for ministry, professional development, formation and spiritual growth for the pastors, diaconal ministers and deacons serving their primary appointment in that local church.</p> <p>6. Clergy in extension ministries and appointments beyond the local church shall give evidence of their continuing formation and spiritual growth program and future plans in their annual reports (§331.002344.2a).</p>	
<p>§341.001 In sabbatical leave according to §§ 341, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whenever possible, the compensation level of the last appointment served before the leave should be maintained in the appointment made at the termination of the leave. 2. Associate members and clergy members in full connection shall submit a written request for a sabbatical leave, including plans for study or travel, to the Board of Ordained Ministry, with copies to the bishop and district superintendent, ordinarily 	<p>[351] §341.001 <u>In sabbatical leave according to §§ 341, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1.</u> Whenever possible, the compensation level of the last appointment served before the leave should be maintained in the appointment made at the termination of the leave. <u>2.</u> Associate members and clergy members in full connection shall submit a written request for a sabbatical leave, including plans for study or travel, to the Board of Ordained Ministry, with copies to the bishop and district superintendent, ordinarily 	

<p>six months before the opening session of the annual conference. To be eligible for an additional sabbatical leave, associate members and clergy members in full connection shall have served six consecutive years under full-time appointment, or in a less than full-time appointment equivalent to six consecutive full-time years, following the previous sabbatical leave. After consultation and with the written consent of the pastor in charge, and with the approval of the district superintendent, clergy members granted sabbatical leave shall designate a charge conference within the bounds of the annual conference in which they shall hold membership and to which they shall submit an annual report.</p> <p>GBOD ¶341.001= 351</p>	<p>six months before the opening session of the annual conference. To be eligible for an additional sabbatical leave, associate members and clergy members in full connection shall have served six consecutive years under full-time appointment, or in a less than full-time appointment equivalent to six consecutive full-time years, following the previous sabbatical leave.³⁵ After consultation and with the written consent of the pastor in charge, and with the approval of the district superintendent, clergy members granted sabbatical leave shall designate a charge conference within the bounds of the annual conference in which they shall hold membership and to which they shall submit an annual report.</p>	
<p>¶342.001 In regards to ¶¶ 342.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: In addition, the Board of Ordained Ministry may request personal interviews with the provisional or associate members and members in full connection named in the requested change, except where personal appearance results in undue hardship.²² Clergy appointed to a general agency of The United Methodist Church shall be covered by the policies of the agency in relation to family leave, maternity or paternity leave, and medical leave.</p> <p>GBOD ¶342.001= 352 ²² Judicial Council Decisions 524, 530</p>	<p>[352] ¶342.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 342.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> In addition, the Board of Ordained Ministry may request personal interviews with the provisional or associate members and members in full connection named in the requested change, except where personal appearance results in undue hardship.²² Clergy appointed to a general agency of The United Methodist Church shall be covered by the policies of the agency in relation to family leave, maternity or paternity leave, and medical leave.</p> <p>²² Judicial Council Decisions 524, 530</p>	
<p>¶342.002 In regards to ¶¶ 342.2b, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: Clergy who are retired, on medical leave, or on sabbatical leave may at their own initiative apply to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry for affiliate membership in the annual conference where they reside. By a two-thirds vote of the executive session, such clergy may be received with rights and privileges, including service on conference boards, agencies,</p>	<p>[334.5] ¶342.002 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 342.2b, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> 5.—Clergy who are retired, on medical leave, or on sabbatical leave may at their own initiative apply to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry for affiliate membership in the annual conference where they reside. By a two-thirds vote of the executive session, such clergy may be received with rights and privileges, including service on</p>	

<p>task forces, and committees, with voice but without vote. Voting membership shall be retained in the clergy member's home annual conference for the duration of affiliate member relationship. Such persons may serve on the board, agency, task force or committee of only one annual conference at any one time.</p> <p>GBOD ¶342.002 = 334.5</p>	<p>conference boards, agencies, task forces, and committees, with voice but without vote. Voting membership shall be retained in the clergy member's home annual conference for the duration of affiliate member relationship. Such persons may serve on the board, agency, task force or committee of only one annual conference at any one time.</p>	
<p>¶342.003 In regards to ¶¶ 342.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. <i>Designation of a Local Church-</i> Documentation of this consent and approvals shall be filed with the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference that granted them honorable location. As clergy members of the charge conference, they shall have all the privileges of membership in the church where they elect to hold charge conference membership, except as set forth in the <i>Book of Discipline</i>.</p> <p>2. The provisions of ¶ 342.3 and 342.003 shall not apply to persons granted involuntary location prior to the General Conference of 1976. The names of located members after the annual passage of their character shall be printed in the journal.</p> <p>GBOD ¶342.003 = 358.2</p>	<p>[358.2] ¶342.003 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 342.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. <i>Designation of a Local Church-</i> Documentation of this consent and approvals shall be filed with the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference that granted them honorable location. As clergy members of the charge conference, they shall be permitted to exercise ministerial functions only with the written permission of the pastor in charge. They shall have all the privileges of membership in the church where they elect to hold charge conference membership, except as set forth in the <i>Book of Discipline</i>.</u></p> <p><u>2. The provisions of this paragraph ¶¶ 342.3 and 342.003 shall not apply to persons granted involuntary location prior to the General Conference of 1976. The names of located members after the annual passage of their character shall be printed in the journal.</u></p>	
<p>¶342.004 In regards to ¶¶ 342.5, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>They shall surrender their certification of conference membership for deposit with the conference secretary.</p> <p>GBOD ¶342.004 = 359.3</p>	<p>[359.3] ¶342.004 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 342.5, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>;and they They shall surrender their certification of conference membership for deposit with the conference secretary.</u></p>	
<p>¶343.001 In voluntary leave of absence according to ¶¶ 343, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. A voluntary leave of absence may be taken for a variety</p>	<p>[353.2-.12] ¶343.001 <u>In voluntary leave of absence according to ¶¶ 343, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p>	

of reasons:

a) *Personal Leave*-A relationship that is granted to clergy who self-determine for personal reasons that they are temporarily unable or unwilling to continue in a ministry appointment.

b) *Family Leave*-A relationship that is granted to clergy who, because of an immediate family member's need for full-time care, are temporarily unable to continue in a ministry appointment.

c) *Transitional Leave*-A leave granted for up to twelve months with approval of the bishop and the Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee to provisional and associate members and full clergy members in good standing who are temporarily between appointments.

A transitional leave of absence may be granted for the following reasons:

(1) A provisional or full member deacon needs to seek and secure an appointable primary position-compensated or nonsalaried.

(2) A provisional or full member elder, or an associate member needs to transition from an extension ministry to another appointment, or from a local church appointment to an extension ministry appointment.

During transitional leave, the clergyperson shall provide quarterly substantiation of his or her effort to obtain such an appointable position to the bishop and to the Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee.²³

2. Written request for a voluntary leave of absence, with the exception of transitional leave, should be made at least ninety days prior to the annual conference session giving specific reasons for the request.²⁴ Representatives of the annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry may interview the clergy member to determine sufficient cause. Personal leave and family leave shall be approved annually upon written request of the clergy member and personal or family leave shall not be granted for more than five years in succession, except

~~1.2.~~ A voluntary leave of absence may be taken for a variety of reasons:

a) *Personal Leave*-A relationship that is granted to clergy who self-determine for personal reasons that they are temporarily unable or unwilling to continue in a ministry appointment.

b) *Family Leave*-A relationship that is granted to clergy who, because of an immediate family member's need for full-time care, are temporarily unable to continue in a ministry appointment.

c) *Transitional Leave*-A leave granted for up to twelve months with approval of the bishop and the Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee to provisional and associate members and full clergy members in good standing who are temporarily between appointments.

A transitional leave of absence may be granted for the following reasons:

(1) A provisional or full member deacon needs to seek and secure an appointable primary position-compensated or nonsalaried.

(2) A provisional or full member elder, or an associate member needs to transition from an extension ministry to another appointment, or from a local church appointment to an extension ministry appointment.

During transitional leave, the clergyperson shall provide quarterly substantiation of his or her effort to obtain such an appointable position to the bishop and to the Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee.²³

~~2.3.~~ Written request for a voluntary leave of absence, with the exception of transitional leave, should be made at least ninety days prior to the annual conference session giving specific reasons for the request.²⁴ Representatives of the annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry may interview the clergy member to determine sufficient cause. Personal leave and family leave shall be approved annually upon written request of the clergy member and personal or family leave shall

by a two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection.²⁵ Transitional leave shall not be renewed beyond a twelve-month period. Voluntary leave shall be counted as a part of the eight-year limit for provisional members (§ 323).²⁶

3. Between sessions of the annual conference, voluntary leave of absence may be granted or terminated by the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry after consultation with and approval by the bishop and district superintendents. This interim action shall be subject to the approval of the clergy session of the annual conference at its next session.²⁷

4. Should there be active complaints or charges, a request for voluntary leave of absence shall not be permitted until those complaints or charges have been resolved.

5. Clergy on voluntary leave of absence shall have no claim on the conference funds. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the conference has made certain elections under applicable benefit plans that require continued participation by clergy on voluntary leaves of absence, the clergy shall continue to participate in such plans. They may participate in the conference health program through their own contributions, if applicable. However, in exceptional circumstances, on recommendation of the bishop and district superintendents, salary and/or other benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, may be granted to a clergy member, if applicable, by vote of the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference. In an interim between sessions of the annual conference, by vote of the bishop, cabinet, and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, salary and/or benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, may be granted, if applicable.

6. Those on voluntary leave of absence shall be held amenable to the annual conference for their conduct and the performance of their ministry. In case of failure to report to the Board of Ordained Ministry, the provisions for administrative location (§ 348) may be invoked.

7. Clergy members on voluntary leave of absence may,

not be granted for more than five years in succession, except by a two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection.²⁵ Transitional leave shall not be renewed beyond a twelve-month period. Voluntary leave shall be counted as a part of the eight-year limit for provisional members (§ 323 327).²⁶

~~3.4.~~ Between sessions of the annual conference, voluntary leave of absence may be granted or terminated by the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry after consultation with and approval by the bishop and district superintendents. This interim action shall be subject to the approval of the clergy session of the annual conference at its next session.²⁷

~~4.5.~~ Should there be active complaints or charges, a request for voluntary leave of absence shall not be permitted until those complaints or charges have been resolved.

~~5.6.~~ Clergy on voluntary leave of absence shall have no claim on the conference funds. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the conference has made certain elections under applicable benefit plans that require continued participation by clergy on voluntary leaves of absence, the clergy shall continue to participate in such plans. They may participate in the conference health program through their own contributions, if applicable. However, in exceptional circumstances, on recommendation of the bishop and district superintendents, salary and/or other benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, may be granted to a clergy member, if applicable, by vote of the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference. In an interim between sessions of the annual conference, by vote of the bishop, cabinet, and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, salary and/or benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, may be granted, if applicable.

~~6.9.~~ Those on voluntary leave of absence shall be held amenable to the annual conference for their conduct and the performance of their ministry. In case of failure to report to the Board of Ordained Ministry, the provisions for administrative location (§ 348 359) may be invoked.

with the permission of the bishop and with the approval of the United Methodist Endorsing Agency, continue to hold an existing reserve commission as an armed forces chaplain, but may not voluntarily serve on extended active duty.

8. When an end to voluntary leave of absence is requested, except for transitional leave, it shall be by written request at least six months prior to the session of annual conference.⁴¹ The Board of Ordained Ministry shall review the circumstances surrounding the granting of the leave for the purpose of determining whether those circumstances have been alleviated or resolved. When the board has determined that the circumstances of the voluntary leave have not been alleviated or resolved and the request is denied, the board will inform the person of the remaining options, which include: *a*) remaining on voluntary leave of absence; *b*) taking honorable location; *c*) being recommended to the bishop and district superintendents to be placed on involuntary leave, administrative location, or involuntary retirement, using the fair process of ¶ 352.2; or *d*) such other action as deemed appropriate.

9. When clergy members on voluntary leave of absence do not request an annual extension of the leave of absence during the five-year period or do not indicate willingness to receive an appointment at the end of the five-year period, following documented efforts to make contact with the clergyperson, the provisions of administrative location (¶348) may be invoked.

GBOD ¶343.001 = 353.2-353.12

²³ Judicial Council Decisions 450, 459, 508, 1226

²⁴ Judicial Council Decision 782

²⁵ Judicial Council Decision 689

²⁶ Judicial Council Decision 1216

²⁷ Judicial Council Decision 689

~~7.40.~~ Clergy members on voluntary leave of absence may, with the permission of the bishop and with the approval of the United Methodist Endorsing Agency, continue to hold an existing reserve commission as an armed forces chaplain, but may not voluntarily serve on extended active duty.

~~8.41.~~ When an end to voluntary leave of absence is requested, except for transitional leave, it shall be by written request at least six months prior to the session of annual conference.⁴¹ The Board of Ordained Ministry shall review the circumstances surrounding the granting of the leave for the purpose of determining whether those circumstances have been alleviated or resolved. When the board has determined that the circumstances of the voluntary leave have not been alleviated or resolved and the request is denied, the board will inform the person of the remaining options, which include: *a*) remaining on voluntary leave of absence; *b*) taking honorable location; *c*) being recommended to the bishop and district superintendents to be placed on involuntary leave, administrative location, or involuntary retirement, using the fair process of ¶ ~~352~~~~361~~.2; or *d*) such other action as deemed appropriate.

~~9.42.~~ When clergy members on voluntary leave of absence do not request an annual extension of the leave of absence during the five-year period or do not indicate willingness to receive an appointment at the end of the five-year period, following documented efforts to make contact with the clergyperson, the provisions of administrative location (¶~~348~~~~359~~) may be invoked.

²³ Judicial Council Decisions 450, 459, 508, 1226

²⁴ Judicial Council Decision 782

²⁵ Judicial Council Decision 689

²⁶ Judicial Council Decision 1216

²⁷ Judicial Council Decision 689

¶344.001 In involuntary leave of absence according to ¶¶ 344, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:

[354.2-.11] ¶344.001 In involuntary leave of absence according to ¶¶ 344, the following additional regulations shall

1. An involuntary leave may be requested by the bishop and the district superintendent and follow procedures for a fair process hearing as set forth in ¶ 352.2 when:

a) A written and signed complaint is not resolved through the supervisory (¶ 353.3), complaint (¶ 353.002), or trial process within 90 days, or clearly cannot be resolved within 90 days.

b) Action pursuant to ¶ 352.001.2 (Involuntary Status Change) is required to address allegations of incompetence, ineffectiveness, or inability to perform ministerial duties.²⁸

2. Should there be complaints or charges pending at the time of a request for involuntary leave of absence, they should be placed in the personnel file of the clergyperson. All subsequent actions concerning such entries should be duly noted and placed in the file.²⁹

3. Requests according to ¶¶344.3 shall be submitted to the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry for interim action.

4. Clergy on involuntary leave shall have no claim on the annual conference funds. The annual conference assumes no financial responsibility for salary, pension, or other benefits for clergy on involuntary leave of absence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the conference has made certain elections under applicable benefit plans that require continued participation by clergy on involuntary leaves of absence, the clergy shall continue to participate in such plans. They may participate in the conference health plan through their own contributions, if applicable. In exceptional circumstances, with the recommendation of the bishop and cabinet, salary and/or other benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, may be granted by vote of the clergy session of the annual conference. Between sessions of the annual conference, in unusual circumstances, the bishop and cabinet may recommend and the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry may approve funding of pensions and other benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans,

be implemented:

~~1.2.~~ An involuntary leave may be requested by the bishop and the district superintendent and follow procedures for a fair process hearing as set forth in ¶ ~~352~~ ~~364~~.2 when:

a) A written and signed complaint is not resolved through the supervisory (¶ ~~353.3~~ ~~362.1b-e~~), complaint (¶ ~~353.002~~ ~~362.1e~~), or trial process within 90 days, or clearly cannot be resolved within 90 days.

b) Action pursuant to ¶ ~~352.001.2~~ ~~363~~ (Involuntary Status Change) is required to address allegations of incompetence, ineffectiveness, or inability to perform ministerial duties.²⁸

~~2.3.~~ Should there be complaints or charges pending at the time of a request for involuntary leave of absence, they should be placed in the personnel file of the clergyperson. All subsequent actions concerning such entries should be duly noted and placed in the file.²⁹

3. Requests according to ¶¶344.3 shall be submitted to the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry for interim action.

~~4.6.~~ Clergy on involuntary leave shall have no claim on the annual conference funds. The annual conference assumes no financial responsibility for salary, pension, or other benefits for clergy on involuntary leave of absence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the conference has made certain elections under applicable benefit plans that require continued participation by clergy on involuntary leaves of absence, the clergy shall continue to participate in such plans. They may participate in the conference health plan through their own contributions, if applicable. In exceptional circumstances, with the recommendation of the bishop and cabinet, salary and/or other benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, may be granted by vote of the clergy session of the annual conference. Between sessions of the annual conference, in unusual circumstances, the bishop and cabinet may recommend and the executive committee of the Board of

<p>pending approval by the annual conference.</p> <p>5. When an end to the involuntary leave of absence is requested by the bishop and district superintendents, it shall be by written request at least six months prior to the session of annual conference. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall review the circumstances surrounding the granting of the relationship for the purpose of determining whether the conditions of the leave have been met. If the board determines that the conditions of the involuntary leave have not been resolved, it may continue involuntary leave of absence for up to the three-year limit or it shall pursue administrative location (see §2 above).</p> <p>6. If the district superintendents and bishop do not intend to appoint a person after three (3) years on involuntary leave, they shall notify both the Board of Ordained Ministry and the clergyperson at least six months prior to the session of the annual conference and pursue administrative location or initiate the complaint process, if it has not already been initiated.</p> <p>7. The administrative review committee (§539.002) shall ensure that the disciplinary procedures for involuntary leave of absence were properly followed. The entire process leading to the recommendation for involuntary leave of absence and its resolution shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD¶344.001 = 354.2-354.11 ²⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 524, 530, 689, 721, 1010 ²⁹ Judicial Council Decisions 524, 530</p>	<p>Ordained Ministry may approve funding of pensions and other benefits, subject to the terms of the applicable benefit plans, pending approval by the annual conference.</p> <p>5.9 When an end to the involuntary leave of absence is requested by the bishop and district superintendents, it shall be by written request at least six months prior to the session of annual conference. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall review the circumstances surrounding the granting of the relationship for the purpose of determining whether the conditions of the leave have been met. If the board determines that the conditions of the involuntary leave have not been resolved, it may continue involuntary leave of absence for up to the three-year limit or it shall pursue administrative location (see §2 above).</p> <p>6.10 If the district superintendents and bishop do not intend to appoint a person after three (3) years on involuntary leave, they shall notify both the Board of Ordained Ministry and the clergyperson at least six months prior to the session of the annual conference and pursue administrative location or initiate the complaint process, if it has not already been initiated.</p> <p>7.11 The administrative review committee (§539.002 636) shall ensure that the disciplinary procedures for involuntary leave of absence were properly followed. The entire process leading to the recommendation for involuntary leave of absence and its resolution shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference.</p> <p>²⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 524, 530, 689, 721, 1010 ²⁹ Judicial Council Decisions 524, 530</p>	
<p>¶345.001 In maternity or paternity leave according to ¶¶ 345, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Maternity or paternity leave, not to exceed one fourth of</p>	<p>[355] ¶345.001 <u>In maternity or paternity leave according to ¶¶ 345, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p>	

<p>a year, shall be granted, within the Board of Ordained Ministry, by its executive committee.</p> <p>2. Persons desiring maternity or paternity leave should file their request with the committee on pastor-parish relations after consulting with the district superintendent at least ninety days prior to its beginning to allow adequate pastoral care for the churches involved to be developed.</p> <p>3. During the leave, the clergy member's annual conference relations will remain unchanged, and the health and welfare benefit plans will remain in force.</p> <p>4. A maternity or paternity leave of up to one-quarter of a year will be considered as an uninterrupted appointment for pension purposes.</p> <p>5. Compensation will be maintained for no less than the first eight weeks of leave.</p> <p>6. During the leave time, pastoral responsibility for the church or churches involved will be handled through consultation with the committee on pastor-parish relations of the local church(es) and the district superintendent.</p> <p>7. Special arrangements shall be made for district superintendents, bishops, and those under special appointment.</p> <p>GBOD ¶345.001 = 355</p>	<p><u>1. Maternity or paternity leave, not to exceed one fourth of a year, shall be granted, within the Board of Ordained Ministry, by its executive committee.</u></p> <p>2.4. Persons desiring maternity or paternity leave should file their request with the committee on pastor-parish relations after consulting with the district superintendent at least ninety days prior to its beginning to allow adequate pastoral care for the churches involved to be developed.</p> <p>3.2. During the leave, the clergy member's annual conference relations will remain unchanged, and the health and welfare benefit plans will remain in force.</p> <p>4.3. A maternity or paternity leave of up to one-quarter of a year will be considered as an uninterrupted appointment for pension purposes.</p> <p>5.4. Compensation will be maintained for no less than the first eight weeks of leave.</p> <p>6.5. During the leave time, pastoral responsibility for the church or churches involved will be handled through consultation with the committee on pastor-parish relations of the local church(es) and the district superintendent.</p> <p>7.6. Special arrangements shall be made for district superintendents, bishops, and those under special appointment.</p>	
<p>¶346.001 In medical leave according to ¶¶ 346.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. There shall be a joint committee on clergy medical leave of the annual conference, or the party responsible for managing clergy medical leaves in accordance with the annual conference's policies, which will report its findings to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions. This relationship may be initiated by the clergy member or cabinet with or without the consent of the clergy member through the Board of Ordained Ministry. When medical leave is given without the clergy member's consent, reasonable accommodation shall be offered whenever possible.</p>	<p>[356] ¶346.001 <u>In medical leave according to ¶¶ 346.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. There shall be a the joint committee on clergy medical leave of the annual conference, or the party responsible for managing clergy medical leaves in accordance with the annual conference's policies, which will report its findings to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions. This relationship may be initiated by the clergy member or cabinet with or without the consent of the clergy member through the Board of Ordained Ministry. When medical leave is given without the clergy member's consent, reasonable accommodation shall be offered whenever possible.</u></p>	

<p>2. When a clergy member is granted medical leave by the annual conference, if the medical evidence has not yet met the standards for the receipt of benefits as set forth in the Comprehensive Protection Plan, section 5.04, the conference board of pensions may authorize payment of the benefits in the amount that would otherwise be payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The payments shall be made by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits as a charge to the annual conference granting the medical leave. If payments from the Comprehensive Protection Plan are subsequently approved, the annual conference will be reimbursed for benefits already paid, not to exceed the amount otherwise payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan.</p> <p>3. Each medical leave granted by the annual conference shall be recorded in the conference minutes.</p> <p>4. A person under consideration for medical leave shall have the right to appear before the joint committee on clergy medical leave or to designate someone to meet with the committee on his or her behalf. In the event of unresolved issues, a person will be ensured of fair process per the guidelines for administrative hearings in ¶ 352.2.</p> <p>GBOD ¶346.001 = 356.1-356.4</p>	<p><u>2.</u> When a clergy member is granted medical leave by the annual conference, if the medical evidence has not yet met the standards for the receipt of benefits as set forth in the Comprehensive Protection Plan, section 5.04, the conference board of pensions may authorize payment of the benefits in the amount that would otherwise be payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The payments shall be made by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits as a charge to the annual conference granting the medical leave. If payments from the Comprehensive Protection Plan are subsequently approved, the annual conference will be reimbursed for benefits already paid, not to exceed the amount otherwise payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan.</p> <p><u>3.</u> Each medical leave granted by the annual conference shall be recorded in the conference minutes.</p> <p>[356.4] 4. A person under consideration for medical leave shall have the right to appear before the joint committee on clergy medical leave or to designate someone to meet with the committee on his or her behalf. In the event of unresolved issues, a person will be ensured of fair process per the guidelines for administrative hearings in ¶ <u>352</u> 361.2.</p>	
<p>¶346.002 In medical leave according to ¶¶ 346.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The consultation shall be performed with the executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the executive committee of the conference board of pensions.</p> <p>2. Investigation of the case shall include accommodation provisions by the joint committee on clergy medical leave of the annual conference, or the party responsible for managing clergy medical leaves in accordance with the annual conference’s policies, which will report its findings to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions. When a clergy member is granted medical leave by the bishop, if the medical evidence has not yet met the</p>	<p>[356.2] ¶346.002 <u>In medical leave according to ¶¶ 346.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. The consultation shall be performed with the executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the executive committee of the conference board of pensions.</u></p> <p><u>2. Investigation of the case shall include including accommodation provisions by the joint committee on clergy medical leave of the annual conference, or the party responsible for managing clergy medical leaves in accordance with the annual conference’s policies, which will report its findings to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions. When a clergy member is granted medical leave by the bishop, if the medical evidence</u></p>	

<p>standards for receipt of benefits as set forth in the Comprehensive Protection Plan, section 5.04, the conference board of pensions may authorize payment of the benefits in the amount that would otherwise be payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The payments shall be made by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits as a charge to the annual conference granting the medical leave. If payments from the Comprehensive Protection Plan are subsequently approved, the annual conference will be reimbursed for benefits already paid, not to exceed the amount otherwise payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan.</p> <p>GBOD ¶346.002 = 356.2</p>	<p>has not yet met the standards for receipt of benefits as set forth in the Comprehensive Protection Plan, section 5.04, the conference board of pensions may authorize payment of the benefits in the amount that would otherwise be payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The payments shall be made by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits as a charge to the annual conference granting the medical leave. If payments from the Comprehensive Protection Plan are subsequently approved, the annual conference will be reimbursed for benefits already paid, not to exceed the amount otherwise payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan</p>	
<p>¶346.003 In termination of medical leave according to ¶¶ 346.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>When clergy members on medical leave provide medical evidence that they have recovered sufficiently to resume ministerial duties, or are able to return through reasonable accommodation, in consultation with the appointive cabinet, upon recommendation of the joint committee on clergy medical leave or the conference relations committee, and with the approval of the executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they may receive an appointment from a bishop between sessions of the annual conference, thereby terminating the medical leave. Such appointment shall be reported immediately by the cabinet to the conference board of pensions and to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Such termination of leave, together with the effective date, shall also be recorded in the minutes of the annual conference at its next regular session.³⁰</p> <p>GBOD ¶346.003 = 356.3 ³⁰ Judicial Council Decision 1012</p>	<p>[356.3] ¶346.003 <u>In termination of medical leave according to ¶¶ 346.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>When clergy members on medical leave provide medical evidence that they have recovered sufficiently to resume ministerial duties, or are able to return through reasonable accommodation, in consultation with the appointive cabinet, upon recommendation of the joint committee on clergy medical leave or the conference relations committee, and with the approval of the executive committee of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they may receive an appointment from a bishop between sessions of the annual conference, thereby terminating the medical leave. Such appointment shall be reported immediately by the cabinet to the conference board of pensions and to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Such termination of leave, together with the effective date, shall also be recorded in the minutes of the annual conference at its next regular session.³⁰</p> <p>³⁰ Judicial Council Decision 1012</p>	
<p>¶347.001 In honorable location according to ¶¶ 347, the</p>	<p>[358] ¶347.001 <u>In honorable location according to ¶¶ 347, the</u></p>	

<p>following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide guidance and counsel to the locating member and family as they return to a new relationship in the local church.</p> <p>2. Ordained ministers on honorable location may request the annual conference to grant them the status of honorable location-retired.³¹ Requests for retired status shall be stated in writing to the bishop, cabinet, and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry at least ninety days prior to the annual conference session. Those granted honorable location retired status shall be accountable for all ministerial services performed to the charge conference in which they hold membership. If such services have been performed, they shall report to that charge conference and exercise their ministry under the supervision of the pastor in charge therein as outlined in ¶ 347. They shall continue to be held amenable for their conduct, through accountability to their charge conference, to the annual conference in which charge conference membership is held.</p> <p>GBOD ¶347.001 = 358 ³¹ Judicial Council Decision 717</p>	<p><u>following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> The Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide guidance and counsel to the locating member and family as they return to a new relationship in the local church.</p> <p><u>2.3.</u> Ordained ministers on honorable location may request the annual conference to grant them the status of honorable location-retired.³¹ Requests for retired status shall be stated in writing to the bishop, cabinet, and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry at least ninety days prior to the annual conference session. Those granted honorable location retired status shall be accountable for all ministerial services performed to the charge conference in which they hold membership. If such services have been performed, they shall report to that charge conference and exercise their ministry under the supervision of the pastor in charge therein as outlined in ¶ 347. They shall continue to be held amenable for their conduct, through accountability to their charge conference, to the annual conference in which charge conference membership is held.</p> <p>³¹ Judicial Council Decision 717</p>	
<p>¶348.001 In administrative location according to ¶¶ 348.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>Ordained ministers on administrative location may request the annual conference to grant them the status of administrative location-retired. Requests for retired status shall be stated in writing to the bishop, cabinet, and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry at least ninety days prior to the annual conference session. Those granted administrative location-retired status shall be accountable to the charge conference in which they hold membership for all ministerial services performed. Ministerial service shall be limited to that charge and shall be provided only with the written consent of the pastor in charge and the district superintendent and with the approval of the bishop and pastor/staff-parish relations</p>	<p>[359.4] <u>¶348.001</u> <u>In administrative location according to ¶¶ 348.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>4.—Ordained ministers on administrative location may request the annual conference to grant them the status of administrative location-retired. Requests for retired status shall be stated in writing to the bishop, cabinet, and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry at least ninety days prior to the annual conference session. Those granted administrative location-retired status shall be accountable to the charge conference in which they hold membership for all ministerial services performed. Ministerial service shall be limited to that charge and shall be provided only with the written consent of the pastor in charge and the district superintendent and with the</p>	

<p>committee. If such services have been performed, they shall report to that charge conference and exercise their ministry under the supervision of the pastor in charge therein as outlined in ¶ 348. They shall continue to be held amenable for their conduct, through accountability to their charge conference, to the annual conference in which charge conference membership is held.</p> <p>GBOD¶348.001 = 359.4</p>	<p>approval of the bishop and pastor/staff-parish relations committee. If such services have been performed, they shall report to that charge conference and exercise their ministry under the supervision of the pastor in charge therein as outlined in ¶ 348 359.3. They shall continue to be held amenable for their conduct, through accountability to their charge conference, to the annual conference in which charge conference membership is held.</p>	
<p>¶349.001 In retirement according to ¶¶ 349.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. <i>Preretirement Counseling</i>-The Board of Ordained Ministry in cooperation with the conference board of pensions shall offer to all clergy members anticipating retirement preconsultation at least five years prior to the date of anticipated retirement (¶ 539.3i). The purpose of the consultation will be to assist the clergy and spouses to plan and to prepare for the adjustments associated with retirement as well as providing guidance and counsel for their return to a new relationship in the local church. In preretirement counseling the Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions may relate to the annual conference association of retired ministers or similar organization where it exists. The boards shall take initiative in assisting retirees to establish such organizations.</p> <p>2. Requests for retirement shall be stated in writing. (See BOD¶¶ 1506-1509 and the Ministerial Pension Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Clergy Retirement Security Program, for pension information.)</p> <p>GBOD¶349.001 = 357.4 and 357.1</p>	<p>¶349.001 In retirement according to ¶¶ 349.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>[357.4] 1.4. <i>Preretirement Counseling</i>-The Board of Ordained Ministry in cooperation with the conference board of pensions shall offer to all clergy members anticipating retirement preconsultation at least five years prior to the date of anticipated retirement (¶539.3i 635.2e). The purpose of the consultation will be to assist the clergy and spouses to plan and to prepare for the adjustments associated with retirement as well as providing guidance and counsel for their return to a new relationship in the local church. In preretirement counseling the Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions may relate to the annual conference association of retired ministers or similar organization where it exists. The boards shall take initiative in assisting retirees to establish such organizations.</p> <p>[357.1] 2. <u>Requests for retirement shall be stated in writing.</u> (See BOD¶¶ 1506-1509 and the Ministerial Pension Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Clergy Retirement Security Program, for pension information.)</p>	
<p>¶349.002 In mandatory retirement according to ¶¶ 349.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: In jurisdictional conferences, clergy members who will have</p>	<p>[357.1] ¶349.002 <u>In mandatory retirement according to ¶¶ 349.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p>	

<p>attained age seventy-two on or before July 1 in the year in which the conference is held shall automatically be retired.</p> <p>GBOD ¶349.002 = 357.1</p>	<p><u>In jurisdictional conferences,</u> clergy members who will have attained age seventy-two on or before July 1 in the year in which the conference is held shall automatically be retired.</p>	
<p>¶349.003 In voluntary retirement according to ¶¶ 349.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. <i>With Twenty Years of Service-</i> The regulations are valid for clergy with pension credit for service before 1982 or with full participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan since 1981 prior to the opening date of the session of the conference.</p> <p>Such clergy may request retirement with the privilege of receiving their pensions for the number of approved years served in the annual conference or conferences and such other benefits as the final annual conference may provide, payment to begin the first of any month after the ordained minister attains age sixty-two.³² If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ 349.003.3 could have occurred, then the actuarial reduction provisions of the Clergy Retirement Security Program shall apply.</p> <p>2. <i>With Thirty Years of Service or at Age Sixty-two-</i>At their own request and by vote of the clergy members in full connection, any clergy members who will have attained age sixty-two on or before July 1 in the year in which the session of the annual conference is held or will have completed thirty years of service under appointment as an ordained minister, or a local pastor with pension credit for service before 1982 or with full participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan since 1981, as of the conference session may be placed in the retired relation with an annuity claim for an actuarially reduced pension (see BOD ¶ 1506.4).³³</p> <p>3. <i>With Forty Years of Service or at Age Sixty-five-</i>At their own request and by vote of the clergy members in full connection, any clergy members who will have attained age sixty-five on or before July 1 in the year in which the session of the conference is held or will have completed forty years of service under appointment as an ordained minister, or as a local</p>	<p>[357.2] ¶349.003 <u>In voluntary retirement according to ¶¶ 349.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1. <i>With Twenty Years of Service-</i> The regulations are valid for clergy with pension credit for service before 1982 or with full participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan since 1981 prior to the opening date of the session of the conference.</u></p> <p><u>Such clergy may request retirement</u> with the privilege of receiving their pensions for the number of approved years served in the annual conference or conferences and such other benefits as the final annual conference may provide, payment to begin the first of any month after the ordained minister attains age sixty-two.³² If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ <u>349.003.3</u> 357.2e could have occurred, then the actuarial reduction provisions of the Clergy Retirement Security Program shall apply.</p> <p><u>2.b) <i>With Thirty Years of Service or at Age Sixty-two-</i></u>At their own request and by vote of the clergy members in full connection, any clergy members who will have attained age sixty-two on or before July 1 in the year in which the session of the annual conference is held or will have completed thirty years of service under appointment as an ordained minister, or a local pastor with pension credit for service before 1982 or with full participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan since 1981, as of the conference session may be placed in the retired relation with an annuity claim for an actuarially reduced pension (see BOD ¶ 1506.4).³³</p> <p><u>3.e) <i>With Forty Years of Service or at Age Sixty-five-</i></u>At their own request and by vote of the clergy members in full connection, any clergy members who will have attained age sixty-five on or before July 1 in the year in which the session of the conference is held or will have completed forty years of</p>	

<p>pastor with pension credit for service before 1982 or with full participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan since 1981, as of the conference session may be placed in the retired relation with the privilege of making an annuity claim.³⁴</p> <p>4. The dates specified in ¶ notwithstanding, between sessions of the annual conference any member who attains the age and/or number of years of service specified in those sections may, upon the member’s own request and with the approval of the bishop, cabinet, and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, be granted the retired relation <i>ad interim</i>, with applicable annuity claim, subject to the approval of the clergy members in full connection at the next annual conference session.</p> <p>5. The annual conference, at its discretion, upon joint recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions, may designate any time within the ensuing conference year as the effective date of retirement of a clergy member who is placed in the retired relation under the provisions of § 2<i>b</i> or § 2<i>c</i> above.³⁵</p> <p>GBOD ¶349.003 = 357.2</p> <p>³² Judicial Council Decision 717</p> <p>³³ Judicial Council Decision 428</p> <p>³⁴ Judicial Council Decision 379</p> <p>³⁵ Judicial Council Decision 769</p>	<p>service under appointment as an ordained minister, or as a local pastor with pension credit for service before 1982 or with full participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan since 1981, as of the conference session may be placed in the retired relation with the privilege of making an annuity claim.³⁴</p> <p>4.d) The dates specified in ¶ 358.1 and 2a-e notwithstanding, between sessions of the annual conference any member who attains the age and/or number of years of service specified in those sections may, upon the member’s own request and with the approval of the bishop, cabinet, and executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, be granted the retired relation <i>ad interim</i>, with applicable annuity claim, subject to the approval of the clergy members in full connection at the next annual conference session.</p> <p>5.e) The annual conference, at its discretion, upon joint recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions, may designate any time within the ensuing conference year as the effective date of retirement of a clergy member who is placed in the retired relation under the provisions of § 2<i>b</i> or § 2<i>c</i> above.³⁵</p> <p>³² Judicial Council Decision 717</p> <p>³³ Judicial Council Decision 428</p> <p>³⁴ Judicial Council Decision 379</p> <p>³⁵ Judicial Council Decision 769</p>	
<p>¶349.004 In involuntary retirement according to ¶¶ 349.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The cabinet may recommend to the Board of Ordained ministry the involuntary retirement of the clergy member, or the Board of Ordained Ministry may make the recommendation upon its own motion.</p> <p>2. Written notice also should be given to the chairperson of the administrative review committee.</p> <p>3. The administrative review committee (¶539.002) shall ensure that the disciplinary procedures for involuntary retirement were properly followed. The entire process leading</p>	<p>[357.3] ¶349.004 <u>In involuntary retirement according to ¶¶ 349.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> The cabinet may recommend to the Board of Ordained ministry the involuntary retirement of the clergy member, or the Board of Ordained Ministry may make the recommendation upon its own motion.</p> <p><u>2.</u> Written notice also should be given to the chairperson of the administrative review committee.</p> <p><u>3.</u> The administrative review committee (¶539.002 636) shall ensure that the disciplinary procedures for involuntary</p>	

<p>to the recommendation for involuntary retirement shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the clergy session of members in full connection of the annual conference. Any clergy member who is placed in the retired relationship under this subparagraph shall be entitled to the privilege of receiving his or her pension for the number of approved years served in the annual conference or conferences and such other benefits as the final annual conference may provide, payment to begin the first of any month after the ordained minister attains age sixty-two. If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ 349.003.3 could have occurred, then the provisions of BOD¶ 1506.4 shall apply.</p> <p>GBOD¶349.004 = 357.3</p>	<p>retirement were properly followed. The entire process leading to the recommendation for involuntary retirement shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the clergy session of members in full connection of the annual conference. Any clergy member who is placed in the retired relationship under this subparagraph shall be entitled to the privilege of receiving his or her pension for the number of approved years served in the annual conference or conferences and such other benefits as the final annual conference may provide, payment to begin the first of any month after the ordained minister attains age sixty-two. If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ 349.003.3 357.2e could have occurred, then the provisions of BOD¶ 1506.4 shall apply.</p>	
<p>¶349.005 In appointment of retired clergy according to ¶¶ 349.5, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>A retired clergy member in full or associate membership appointed to a pastoral charge shall have neither a claim upon minimum compensation from the Commission on Equitable Compensation or similar conference agency, nor further pension credit. Compensation for a retired clergy shall be negotiated between the district superintendent and the pastoral charge or other appointment to which the retired clergy is appointed. Retired clergy may serve on conference agencies.³⁶</p> <p>GBOD¶349.005 = 357.6</p> <p>³⁶ Judicial Council Decisions 87, 531, 558</p>	<p>[357.6] ¶349.005 <u>In appointment of retired clergy according to ¶¶ 349.5, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>A retired ordained minister <u>A retired clergy member in full or associate membership</u> appointed to a pastoral charge shall have neither a claim upon minimum compensation from the Commission on Equitable Compensation or similar conference agency, nor further pension credit. Compensation for a retired ordained minister <u>clergy</u> shall be negotiated between the district superintendent and the pastoral charge or other appointment to which the retired ordained minister <u>clergy</u> is appointed. Retired ordained ministers <u>clergy</u> may serve on conference agencies.³⁶</p> <p>³⁶ Judicial Council Decisions 87, 531, 558</p>	
<p>¶349.006 In return to effective relationship according to ¶¶ 349.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>Certificates of good health shall be submitted on the</p>	<p>[357.7] ¶349.006 <u>In return to effective relationship according to ¶¶ 349.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p><u>Certificates of good health shall be submitted on the</u></p>	

<p>prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry. However, any pension being received through the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall be discontinued upon their return to the effective relationship. The pension shall be reinstated upon subsequent retirement.</p> <p>GBOD ¶349.006 = 357.7</p>	<p>prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry. However, any pension being received through the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall be discontinued upon their return to the effective relationship. The pension shall be reinstated upon subsequent retirement.</p>	
<p>¶351.001 In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission to provisional membership:</p> <p>Persons who have been discontinued as provisional members under the provisions of ¶ 323.5 from an annual conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be readmitted by the annual conference in which they held previously such membership and from which they requested discontinuance or were discontinued, or its legal successor, or the annual conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, upon their request and recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the cabinet after review of their qualifications, as required in ¶ 320, and the circumstances relating to their discontinuance. When reinstated by vote of the clergy members in full connection, their provisional membership in the conference shall be restored, they shall serve a minimum of two years of provisional membership according to ¶ 322.001 prior to ordination, and they shall be authorized by licensing and/or commissioning to perform those ministerial functions for which they are qualified.</p> <p>GBOD ¶351.001 = 364</p>	<p>[364] ¶351.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission to provisional membership:</u></p> <p>Persons who have been discontinued as provisional members under the provisions of ¶ <u>323.5</u> 327.6 from an annual conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be readmitted by the annual conference in which they held previously such membership and from which they requested discontinuance or were discontinued, or its legal successor, or the annual conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, upon their request and recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the cabinet after review of their qualifications, as required in ¶ <u>320</u> 324, and the circumstances relating to their discontinuance. When reinstated by vote of the clergy members in full connection, their provisional membership in the conference shall be restored, they shall serve a minimum of two years of provisional membership according to ¶ <u>322.001</u> 326 prior to ordination, and they shall be authorized by licensing and/or commissioning to perform those ministerial functions for which they are qualified.</p>	
<p>¶351.002 In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission after honorable or administrative location:</p>	<p>[365] ¶351.002 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission after honorable or administrative location:</u></p>	

<p>Associate members or clergy members in full connection requesting readmission after honorable or administrative location must meet the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of their certificate of location. 2. A satisfactory report and recommendation by the charge conference and pastor of the local church in which their membership is held. 3. A satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall require psychological evaluation. 4. Recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the cabinet after review of their qualifications, the circumstances relating to their location and conduct during the period of time while on location. When reinstated by vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference that granted the location, their membership in the conference shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform all ministerial functions. The conference Board of Ordained Ministry may require at least one year of service as a local pastor (elder and associate member) or approved ministry setting (deacon) prior to readmission to conference membership. <p>GBOD ¶351.002 = 365</p>	<p>Associate members or clergy members in full connection requesting readmission after honorable or administrative location must meet the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of their certificate of location. 2. A satisfactory report and recommendation by the charge conference and pastor of the local church in which their membership is held. 3. A satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall require psychological evaluation. 4. Recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the cabinet after review of their qualifications, the circumstances relating to their location and conduct during the period of time while on location. When reinstated by vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference that granted the location, their membership in the conference shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform all ministerial functions. The conference Board of Ordained Ministry may require at least one year of service as a local pastor (elder and associate member) or approved ministry setting (deacon) prior to readmission to conference membership. 	
<p>¶351.003 In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission after leaving the ministerial office:</p> <p>Associate members or clergy members in full connection who have left the ministerial office under the provisions of ¶ 350 to an annual conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be readmitted by the annual conference in which they held previously such membership and to which they surrendered the ministerial office, or its legal successor, or the annual conference of which the major portion of the former conference is a part, upon their request and</p>	<p>[366] ¶351.003 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission after leaving the ministerial office:</u></p> <p>Associate members or clergy members in full connection who have left the ministerial office under the provisions of ¶ <u>350</u> 360 to an annual conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be readmitted by the annual conference in which they held previously such membership and to which they surrendered the ministerial office, or its legal successor, or the annual conference of which the major portion of the former conference is a part, upon their</p>	

<p>recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the cabinet after review of their qualifications and the circumstances relating to the surrender of their ministerial office. A period of at least two years service as a local pastor (elder and associate member) or approved ministry setting (deacon) shall be required prior to readmission to conference membership. This service may be rendered in any annual conference of The United Methodist Church with the consent of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference in which members previously held membership. When reinstated by vote of the clergy members in full connection, their membership in the conference and their credentials shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform all ministerial functions.³⁷</p> <p>GBOD ¶351.003 = 366 ³⁷ Judicial Council Decisions 515, 552</p>	<p>request and recommendation by the district committee on ordained ministry, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the cabinet after review of their qualifications and the circumstances relating to the surrender of their ministerial office. A period of at least two years service as a local pastor (elder and associate member) or approved ministry setting (deacon) shall be required prior to readmission to conference membership. This service may be rendered in any annual conference of The United Methodist Church with the consent of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference in which members previously held membership. When reinstated by vote of the clergy members in full connection, their membership in the conference and their credentials shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform all ministerial functions.³⁷</p> <p>³⁷ Judicial Council Decisions 515, 552</p>	
<p>¶351.004 In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission after termination by action of the annual conference: Persons who have been terminated by an annual conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may seek full membership in the annual conference in which they previously held membership and from which they were terminated, or its legal successor, or the annual conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, upon recommendation of the cabinet and completion of all requirements for full membership, including all requirements for election to candidacy and provisional membership. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to all persons terminated or involuntarily located prior to General Conference of 1976.</p> <p>GBOD ¶351.004 = 367</p>	<p>[367] ¶351.004 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for readmission after termination by action of the annual conference:</u> Persons who have been terminated by an annual conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may seek full membership in the annual conference in which they previously held membership and from which they were terminated, or its legal successor, or the annual conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, upon recommendation of the cabinet and completion of all requirements for full membership, including all requirements for election to candidacy and provisional membership. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to all persons terminated or involuntarily located prior to General Conference of 1976.</p>	
<p>¶351.005 In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional</p>	<p>[368] ¶351.005 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 351, the following additional</u></p>	

<p>regulations shall be implemented for readmission after involuntary retirement: Clergy members of an annual conference desiring to return to effective relationship after having been placed in involuntary retirement (§ 349.4 and 349.004) must meet the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a written request for reinstatement to the Board of Ordained Ministry. 2. The Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet shall review the member’s qualifications and the circumstances relating to his or her retirement. 3. Recommendation by the Board of Ordained Ministry, the bishop, cabinet, and a two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference that granted the involuntary retirement. A period of at least two years of service as a local pastor shall be required prior to readmission to conference membership. 4. Presentation of the certificate of retirement. 5. Presentation of satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry may require a psychological evaluation. Any pension being received through the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall be discontinued upon their return to effective relationship. The pension shall be reinstated upon subsequent retirement. <p>GBOD §351.005 = 368</p>	<p><u>regulations shall be implemented for readmission after involuntary retirement:</u> Clergy members of an annual conference desiring to return to effective relationship after having been placed in involuntary retirement (§349.4 and 349.004 357.3) must meet the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a written request for reinstatement to the Board of Ordained Ministry. 2. The Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet shall review the member’s qualifications and the circumstances relating to his or her retirement. 3. Recommendation by the Board of Ordained Ministry, the bishop, cabinet, and a two-thirds vote of the clergy members in full connection of the annual conference that granted the involuntary retirement. A period of at least two years of service as a local pastor shall be required prior to readmission to conference membership. 4. Presentation of the certificate of retirement. 5. Presentation of satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Board of Ordained Ministry may require a psychological evaluation. Any pension being received through the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall be discontinued upon their return to effective relationship. The pension shall be reinstated upon subsequent retirement. 	
<p>§352.001 In regards to §§ 352.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a conference relations committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall establish a conference relations committee of at least three persons to hear requests for discontinuance of provisional members, involuntary leave of absence, administrative location, involuntary retirement, or other such matters as may 	<p>[361] <u>§352.001 In regards to §§ 352.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a conference relations committee:</u> Conference Relations Committee-1. Each annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall establish a conference relations committee of at least three persons to hear requests for discontinuance of provisional members, involuntary leave of absence, administrative location,</p>	

<p>be referred to them by the Board of Ordained Ministry (§ 539). District superintendents shall not serve on the conference relations committee.</p> <p>2. When there is a recommendation for an involuntary status change, the Board of Ordained Ministry shall take action in a timely manner. The recommendation shall be referred to the conference relations committee who shall conduct an administrative hearing following the fair process provisions of § 352.2. The bishop or the Board of Ordained Ministry, as appropriate, shall designate the person to present the recommendation to the committee. The respondent shall be given an opportunity to address the recommendation in person, in writing, and with the assistance of a clergy person who is a member in full connection of the respondent's annual conference, and who shall have voice. Once the committee has heard the person designated to represent the recommendation, the respondent, and others as determined by the chairperson of the committee, it shall report its decision to the Board of Ordained Ministry. The board may affirm or reverse the decision of the committee.</p> <p>GBOD § 352.001 = 361 and 363</p>	<p>involuntary retirement, or other such matters as may be referred to them by the Board of Ordained Ministry (§ 539 635). District superintendents shall not serve on the conference relations committee.</p> <p>[363] <u>2.</u> When there is a recommendation for an involuntary status change, the Board of Ordained Ministry shall take action in a timely manner. The recommendation shall be referred to the conference relations committee who shall conduct an administrative hearing following the fair process provisions of § <u>352.2</u> 361.2. The bishop or the Board of Ordained Ministry, as appropriate, shall designate the person to present the recommendation to the committee. The respondent shall be given an opportunity to address the recommendation in person, in writing, and with the assistance of a clergy person who is a member in full connection of the respondent's annual conference, and who shall have voice. Once the committee has heard the person designated to represent the recommendation, the respondent, and others as determined by the chairperson of the committee, it shall report its decision to the Board of Ordained Ministry. The board may affirm or reverse the decision of the committee.</p>	
<p>§ 352.002 In regards to §§ 352.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for fair process:</p> <p>The process set forth in this paragraph shall be followed whenever there is a request for discontinuance of provisional membership (upon appeal by the provisional member), involuntary leave of absence, administrative location, or involuntary retirement. Special attention shall be given to the timely disposition of all matters and to ensuring racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the committee dealing with the fair process hearing.</p> <p>GBOD § 352.002 = 361.2</p>	<p>[361.2] § 352.002 <u>In regards to §§ 352.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for fair process:</u></p> <p>The process set forth in this paragraph shall be followed whenever there is a request for discontinuance of provisional membership (upon appeal by the provisional member), involuntary leave of absence, administrative location, or involuntary retirement. Special attention shall be given to the timely disposition of all matters and to ensuring racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the committee dealing with the fair process hearing.</p>	
<p>§ 353.001 In complaint procedures according to § 353.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p>	<p>§ 353.001 <u>In complaint procedures according to § 353.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p>	

<p>All original time limitations may be extended for one 30-day period upon the consent of the complainant and the respondent.</p> <p>GBOD ¶353.001 = part of 362</p>	<p>[362] All original time limitations may be extended for one 30-day period upon the consent of the complainant and the respondent.</p>	
<p>¶353.002 In complaint procedures according to ¶¶ 353.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The complaint shall be treated as an allegation or allegations during the supervisory process. At all supervisory meetings no verbatim record shall be made and no legal counsel shall be present.</p> <p>2. At the determination of the bishop, persons with qualifications and experience in assessment, intervention, or healing may be selected to assist in the supervisory response. The bishop also may consult with the committee on pastor-parish relations for pastors, the district committee on superintendency for the district superintendents, appropriate personnel committee or other persons who may be helpful.</p> <p>3. <i>Just Resolution</i>-The supervisory response may include a process that seeks a just resolution in which the parties are assisted by a trained, impartial third party facilitator(s) or mediator(s), in reaching an agreement satisfactory to all parties.³⁸ If the bishop chooses to initiate a mediated attempt to produce a just resolution, then the bishop, the person filing the complaint, the respondent, and other appropriate persons shall enter into a written agreement outlining the process, including any agreements on confidentiality. A process seeking a just resolution may begin at any time in the supervisory, complaint, or trial process. If resolution is achieved, a written statement of resolution, including any terms and conditions, shall be signed by the parties and the parties shall agree on any matters to be disclosed to third parties. A just resolution agreed to by all parties shall be a final disposition of the related complaint.</p> <p>A process seeking a just resolution may begin at any time in the supervisory or complaint process. This is a not an administrative or judicial proceeding.</p>	<p>¶353.002 <u>In complaint procedures according to ¶¶ 353.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[362.b] <u>1.</u> The complaint shall be treated as an allegation or allegations during the supervisory process. At all supervisory meetings no verbatim record shall be made and no legal counsel shall be present.</p> <p><u>2.</u> At the determination of the bishop, persons with qualifications and experience in assessment, intervention, or healing may be selected to assist in the supervisory response. The bishop also may consult with the committee on pastor-parish relations for pastors, the district committee on superintendency for the district superintendents, appropriate personnel committee or other persons who may be helpful.</p> <p>[362.c] <u>3.e)</u> <i>Just Resolution</i>-The supervisory response may include a process that seeks a just resolution in which the parties are assisted by a trained, impartial third party facilitator(s) or mediator(s), in reaching an agreement satisfactory to all parties.³⁸ If the bishop chooses to initiate a mediated attempt to produce a just resolution, then the bishop, the person filing the complaint, the respondent, and other appropriate persons shall enter into a written agreement outlining the process, including any agreements on confidentiality. A process seeking a just resolution may begin at any time in the supervisory, complaint, or trial process. If resolution is achieved, a written statement of resolution, including any terms and conditions, shall be signed by the parties and the parties shall agree on any matters to be disclosed to third parties. A just resolution agreed to by all parties shall be a final disposition of the related complaint.</p> <p>A process seeking a just resolution may begin at any time in the supervisory or complaint process. This is a not an administrative or judicial proceeding.</p>	

4. *Referral or Dismissal of a Complaint*-Upon receiving a written and signed complaint, the Bishop shall, within 90 days, carry out the supervisory response process outlined above. If within 90 days after the receipt of the complaint resolution is not achieved, the bishop shall either:

a) Dismiss the complaint with the consent of the cabinet giving the reasons therefore in writing, a copy of which shall be placed in the clergy person's file; or

b) Refer the matter to the counsel for the church as a complaint

5. *Supervisory Follow-up and Healing*-The bishop and cabinet shall provide a process for healing within the congregation, annual conference, or other context of ministry if there has been significant disruption by the complaint. This process may include sharing of information by the bishop or the bishop's designee about the nature of the complaint without disclosing alleged facts, which may compromise any possible forthcoming administrative or judicial process. When facts are disclosed, due regard should be given to the interests and needs of all concerned, including the respondent and complainant who may be involved in an administrative or judicial process. This process for healing may include a process of a just resolution, which addresses unresolved conflicts, support for victims, and reconciliation for parties involved.³⁹ This can take place at any time during the supervisory, complaint, or trial process.

6. A complaint may be held in abeyance with the approval of the Board of Ordained Ministry if civil authorities are involved or their involvement is imminent on matters covered by the complaint. The status of complaints held in abeyance shall be reviewed at a minimum of every 90 days by the bishop and the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry to ensure that the involvement of civil authorities is still a valid impediment for proceeding with the resolution of a complaint. Abeyance of a complaint may be terminated by either the bishop or the Board of Ordained

[362.d] ~~4.e~~ *Referral or Dismissal of a Complaint*- Upon receiving a written and signed complaint, the Bishop shall, within 90 days, carry out the supervisory response process outlined above. If within 90 days after the receipt of the complaint resolution is not achieved, the bishop shall either:

~~a)~~ Dismiss the complaint with the consent of the cabinet giving the reasons therefore in writing, a copy of which shall be placed in the clergy person's file; or

~~b)~~ Refer the matter to the counsel for the church as a complaint

[362.f] ~~5.f~~ *Supervisory Follow-up and Healing*-The bishop and cabinet shall provide a process for healing within the congregation, annual conference, or other context of ministry if there has been significant disruption by the complaint. This process may include sharing of information by the bishop or the bishop's designee about the nature of the complaint without disclosing alleged facts, which may compromise any possible forthcoming administrative or judicial process. When facts are disclosed, due regard should be given to the interests and needs of all concerned, including the respondent and complainant who may be involved in an administrative or judicial process. This process for healing may include a process of a just resolution, which addresses unresolved conflicts, support for victims, and reconciliation for parties involved.³⁹ This can take place at any time during the supervisory, complaint, or trial process.

[362.g] ~~6.g~~ A complaint may be held in abeyance with the approval of the Board of Ordained Ministry if civil authorities are involved or their involvement is imminent on matters covered by the complaint. The status of complaints held in abeyance shall be reviewed at a minimum of every 90 days by the bishop and the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry to ensure that the involvement of civil authorities is still a valid impediment for proceeding with the resolution of a complaint. Abeyance of a complaint may be

<p>Ministry. The time in which a complaint is held in abeyance shall not count toward the statute of limitations. A clergy person shall continue to hold his or her current status while a complaint is held in abeyance.</p> <p>GBOD¶353.002=362.b-362.g ³⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 691, 700, 751, 763, 768 ³⁹ Judicial Council Decision 763</p>	<p>terminated by either the bishop or the Board of Ordained Ministry. The time in which a complaint is held in abeyance shall not count toward the statute of limitations. A clergy person shall continue to hold his or her current status while a complaint is held in abeyance.</p> <p>³⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 691, 700, 751, 763, 768 ³⁹ Judicial Council Decision 763</p>	
<p>¶353.003 In complaint procedures according to ¶¶ 353.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: During the suspension, salary, housing, and benefits provided by a pastoral charge will continue at a level no less than on the date of suspension.⁴⁰ The person so suspended shall retain all rights and privileges as stated in BOD¶ 334. The cost of supply of a pastor during the suspension will be borne by the annual conference.⁴¹</p> <p>GBOD¶353.003 = 362.d ⁴⁰ Judicial Council Decision 776 ⁴¹ Judicial Council Decisions 534, 836</p>	<p>¶353.003 <u>In complaint procedures according to ¶¶ 353.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> [362.d] During the suspension, salary, housing, and benefits provided by a pastoral charge will continue at a level no less than on the date of suspension.⁴⁰ The person so suspended shall retain all rights and privileges as stated in BOD¶ 334. The cost of supply of a pastor during the suspension will be borne by the annual conference.⁴¹</p> <p>⁴⁰ Judicial Council Decision 776 ⁴¹ Judicial Council Decisions 534, 836</p>	