

**MINISTERS NOT OFFICIALLY RELATED TO A PARTICULAR CHURCH**

**I. Policy Statement**

Ministers who are not officially related to a particular church shall respect the position of any pastor, co-pastor, associate pastor, or individual serving in a temporary pastoral relationship regarding all ministerial functions within that congregation.

**II. Rationale**

It is vital that ministers who are not officially related to a particular church perform ministerial functions only under the guidance of COM and/or with the concurrence of the pastor of the church involved.

**III. Responsibilities**

**A. Committee on Ministry (COM) Responsibilities**

COM shall annually review the status and activity of all ministers, including those not officially related to a particular church.

**B. Minister Responsibilities**

Ministers not officially related to a particular church shall: officiate at weddings and funerals only when an invitation has been issued by the pastor of the church involved; administer the sacraments only at the request of the pastor, the church's session, or by permission of presbytery; not counsel with or advise members of congregations concerning problems in their respective churches except when on official presbytery business.

**C. Session Responsibilities**

N/A

**D. E. Additional Responsibilities/Information**

N/A