

Conferring Title of Pastor Emeritus/Emerita

I. Policy Statement

A congregation may confer the title of Pastor Emeritus or Pastor Emerita on an honorably retired pastor.

II. Rationale

A congregation, moved by affection and gratitude at the retirement of a much loved pastor, may wish to recognize the relationship by conferring this honorary title.

III. Responsibilities

A. Session Responsibilities

Session shall consult with COM concerning the desire to confer the title before bringing it to the congregation for a vote.

At a regularly scheduled congregational meeting, session shall recommend to the congregation that this title be conferred.

Session shall communicate to the congregation that this title carries no pastoral authority or duty.

The action may take effect upon the formal dissolution of the pastoral relationship or anytime thereafter.

B. Committee on Ministry (COM)

Before the title is conferred, COM shall consult with the session concerning the wisdom of this decision for the peace of the church

C. Presbytery Responsibilities

This action shall be subject to the approval of presbytery.

D. Minister Responsibilities

Pastors Emeriti and Emeritae must abide by the policies of this presbytery regarding the relationship between former pastors and congregations. See EC-4, PT-2, HR-2.