

Annual Report to Presbytery

Required for At-Large and Minister-Members Engaged in

**1. Contract Positions or 2. Validated Beyond the Congregation Ministries,
and Requested of Honorably Retired Ministers**

Approved by COM: May 6, 2008

Date Submitted by minister-member _____

The Committee on Ministry shall report to the presbytery annually the type of work in which each teaching elder of the presbytery is engaged. The Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of New Covenant requires an annual report on the form following, from all members-at-large and members engaged in contract positions or validated ministries. This report is also respectfully requested, although not mandated, of Honorably Retired minister-members. **In accordance with this requirement, please complete this form and return it by _____ to:**

**PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
1110 Lovett Blvd.
Houston, TX 77006-3808**

ATTN: COM - ADMINISTRATION SUBCOMMITTEE

I. _____

(name)

(home phone with area code)

(street address)

(city)

(zip code)

(Business phone with area code)

(Cell phone with area code)

e-mail address(es)

II. Your Ecclesiastical Status: G-2.0503 Categories of Membership

A teaching elder is a member of a presbytery and shall be engaged in a ministry validated by that presbytery, a member-at-large as determined by the presbytery, or honorably retired. **(check all below that apply):**

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() Honorably Retired (if no longer actively engaged in ministry, please skip to section **VI**.)

() Honorably Retired: Serving as a Parish Associate. Name of church:

_____. Skip to section **III**.

() Honorably Retired: Serving as Stated Supply, Temporary Supply, or Interim. Skip to section **VI**.

() Validated: Serving as Stated Supply, Temporary Supply, or Interim.

Skip to section **VI**.

() Validated: Serving in a ministry beyond the congregation, validated by Presbytery. Skip to section **V**.

() Member-at-Large: *A member-at-large is a minister of the Word and Sacrament who has previously been admitted to the presbytery or another presbytery as an active member, and who now, without intentional abandonment of the exercise of ministry, **is no longer engaged in a ministry that complies with all the criteria in G-2.0503a.***

In what ways are you using your ordination privileges and responsibilities?

IF EMPLOYED OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS OF MINISTRY, BUT DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS OF MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT, PLEASE SKIP TO SECTION IV.

() No Longer Engaged in Validated Ministry

G-2.0508

A teaching elder whom the presbytery determines no longer to be engaged in a validated ministry (G-2.0503a) or to fulfill the criteria for membership-at-large (G-2.0503b), and who is not honorably retired (G-2.0503c), shall not have voice or vote in meetings of the presbytery, except when the matter under consideration pertains to his or her relationship to the presbytery. Names of such persons shall be reported annually to the presbytery by the stated clerk. If after three years the teaching elder does not meet the criteria for validated ministry or membership-at-large, the presbytery may delete that person's name from the roll of membership and, upon request of a session, dismiss that person to a congregation.

IF YOU CHECKED "NO LONGER ENGAGED..." DO YOU WISH TO LEARN HOW TO REACTIVATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP? _____

WOULD YOU PREFER TO SET ASIDE YOUR ORDINATION AND HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERRED TO A LOCAL CONGREGATION? _____

III. IF SERVING AS PARISH ASSOCIATE, PLEASE RESPOND TO THESE QUESTIONS:

What are your specific responsibilities as Parish Associate? Have these changed since your Parish Associate Covenant was approved? In what ways?

Do you expect this Covenant to be renewed another year?

How would you describe your working relationship with the pastor(s) and session of this congregation?

IV. IF EMPLOYED OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS OF MINISTRY AND WISH TO REMAIN A MEMBER-AT-LARGE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- A.** Describe your employment during the past year for which income was earned. Please provide the name and address of employing body, or write "not employed"

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- B.** Teaching elders (also called ministers of the Word and Sacrament) shall in all things be committed to teaching the faith and equipping the saints for the work of ministry (Eph. 4:12). They may serve in a variety of ministries, as authorized by the presbytery. When they serve as preachers and teachers of the Word, they shall preach and teach the faith of the church, so that the people are shaped by the pattern of the gospel and strengthened for witness and service. When they serve at font and table, they shall interpret the mysteries of grace and lift the people's vision toward the hope of God's new creation. When they serve as pastors, they shall support the people in the disciplines of the faith amid the struggles of daily life. When they serve as presbyters, they shall participate in the responsibilities of governance, seeking always to discern the mind of Christ and to build up Christ's body through devotion, debate, and decision. [**G-2.0501**]

How do you (a) teach the faith and equip the saints for the work of ministry?

- C.** *The ministry shall give evidence of theologically informed fidelity to God's Word. This will normally require the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent and the completion of the requirements for ordination set forth in G-2.0607.*

It is expected that ordinarily a secular or non-church related occupation will be one which can be performed more effectively by the application of skills acquired in a seminary M.Div. program. How do you make use of your seminary training in your ministry?

- D.** Which congregation in the presbytery do you consider to be your "church home?" Where applicable **(a)** list the ways in which you are related to the life and work of a particular congregation, **(b)** list the ways in which you have been active in the life and work of the presbytery, and **(c)** list other religious or ecclesiastical activities have you been engaged during the past year.

V. IF YOU ARE ENGAGED IN A VALIDATED MINISTRY BEYOND THE LOCAL CONGREGATION, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- A.** The Book of Order stipulates this about validated ministry: *shall be carried on in accountability for its character and conduct to the presbytery in addition to any organizations, agencies, and institutions served G-2.0503(4).*

To whom and to what organization(s) are you accountable in the performance of your ministry?

- B.** *The ministry shall include responsible participation in the deliberations, worship, and work of the presbytery and in the life of a congregation of this church or a church in correspondence with the PC(USA) (G-5.0201). G-2.0503(5)*

Which congregation in the presbytery do you consider to be your "church home?" And where applicable **(a)** list the ways in which you are related to the life and work of a particular congregation, **(b)** list the ways in which you have been active in the life and work of the presbytery, and **(c)** list other religious or ecclesiastical activities have you been engaged during the past year.

- C.** Has anything changed significantly in your (validated) ministry in the past year?

VI. FOR ALL TO ANSWER

Are there any joys or accomplishments you would like to share with the Committee on Ministry?

Please feel free to provide any additional comments, concerns, or questions.