

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Area: The Committee on Ministry is divided into five geographical areas.

CIF: Church Information Form, a dossier a church completes about itself prior to a search for a new pastor.

COM: Committee on Ministry of the presbytery.

CPM: Committee on Preparation for Ministry of the presbytery.

DP: Designated Pastor

EP: Executive Presbyter, the head of the presbytery staff.

G-Number: Refers to sections of the Form of Government are given in the Book of Order as a number preceded by the letter G.

GA: General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church is the national governing body.

HR: Honorably Retired is the official designation of all retired clergy.

Neutral pulpit: A term which refers to the nearby church where a prospective pastor is asked to preach for a Pastor Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee: The Congregation's Nominating Committee prepares a list of potential Pastor Nominating Committee members.

Non-parish clergy: Ordained Presbyterian ministers who are not currently serving a congregation (e.g. chaplains, professors, etc.)

Personnel Committee: The committee of the session which annually reviews the compensation and work of the pastor and regularly consults with the pastor concerning problems related to employees of the church.

PIF: Personal Information Form, a résumé completed by a pastor who is seeking a new call.

PNC: Pastor Nominating Committee, or search committee elected by the congregation to seek, interview, and (in consultation with the Committee on Ministry of the presbytery) recommend a new pastor to a congregation.