

Calling a Designated Pastor: (adapted from G-14.0521 Old FOG)

A Designated pastoral relationship, full or part-time, is a call to a minister of the Word and Sacrament established by the presbytery for a term of not less than two nor more than four years. The congregation and the minister must both have agreed to be considered for a designated relationship.

A Designated Screening Team will be created by Committee on Ministry to work alongside the Pastor Nominating Committee, creating a collegial process for effective work in calling a Designated Pastor. The Screening Team will consist of representatives from the committee on ministry, and may include representatives within the presbytery with experience in designated pastoral relationships. Members of the team will be approved by the committee on ministry. The Screening Team is responsible for reviewing Personal Information Forms collected for Designated Pastor and distributing recommended candidates to the Pastoral Nominating Committee for consideration. There will be open dialogue regarding candidates not recommended to the Pastoral Nominating committee as needed.

The congregation's Pastor Nominating Committee shall nominate to the congregation for its consideration and vote, from those ministers distributed for consideration by the Designated Screening Team. The minister is installed by the presbytery and is a member of the session.

Renewing or Ending the Call: (from G-14.0522 Old FOG)

The call approved by the presbytery is renewable anytime during the last six months of the term, and cannot be changed or dissolved except by consent of the presbytery, at the request of the pastor or at the request of the church by action of the congregation, when the presbytery, after consultation with the minister and the congregation finds that the church's mission under the Word imperatively demands it, or when the term specified in the call expires without action having been taken to renew the call. The presbytery may designate and the congregation may call more than one minister to serve as designated pastor, sharing duties within the congregation as agreed upon by the session and approved by the presbytery. When there is more than one pastor, the ministers and the session shall agree on a schedule for sharing the times each will moderate.

Designated Pastor to Pastor: (from G-14.0523 Old FOG)

If there has been an open search process conducted by the committee on ministry and after at least two years of the designated pastor relationship, upon the concurrence of the committee on ministry, the designated pastor, and the session, acting in place of the pastor nominating committee for the single purpose of calling the designated pastor as pastor, a congregational meeting may be held to call the designated pastor as pastor. The session, with the concurrence of the committee on ministry, may call a congregational meeting to

elect a pastor nominating committee to conduct a full pastoral search or to prosecute the call to the designated pastor to become pastor. The action of the congregation shall be reported to the presbytery. If the congregational action is affirmative, the presbytery, after voting to approve the new pastoral relationship, shall install the designated pastor as installed pastor.

STEP BY STEP PROCESS FOR CALLING A DESIGNATED PASTOR in Denver Presbytery

1. Vote of the Session to call a Designated Pastor as Pastoral Leadership.
2. Approval of the Committee on Ministry to call a Designated Pastor, to hold a congregational meeting to vote on the length of the designated term (minimum of 2 years, not to exceed 4 years-G-14.0521 Old FOG) and to elect a Designated Pastor Nominating Committee.
3. Committee on Ministry elects a Screening Team with representation from the committee on ministry, and may include representatives within the presbytery with experience in designated pastoral relationships. Suggest 5-6 members with a moderator selected from the team membership.
4. Pastor Nominating Committee will complete a job description for the Designated Pastor. The Ministry Information Form (MIF) will be developed in consultation with the Screening Team and Committee on Ministry. MIF is to be approved by the Committee on Ministry prior to being posted.
5. An open pastoral search process for a full or part-time Designated Pastoral relationship, a call to a minister of the Word and Sacrament established by the presbytery for the designated term as voted on by the congregation (a term of not less than two nor more than four years) will be conducted. Personal Information Forms (PIF) will be collected at the Presbytery and distributed to the Screening Team.
6. A Designated Screening Team will work alongside the Pastoral Nominating Committee, creating a collegial process for effective work in calling a Designated Pastor. The Screening Team will review the Personal Information Forms collected and distribute recommended candidates to the Pastoral Nominating Committee for consideration. There will be open dialogue regarding candidates not recommended to the Pastoral Nominating committee as needed. The churches PNC will make the decision on the candidate to nominate to the congregation.

7. The congregation's Pastor Nominating Committee shall nominate to the congregation for its consideration and vote the designated pastoral candidate approved by the committee on ministry recommended by the Pastor Nominating Committee. The designated pastor is installed by the presbytery and is a member of the session.
8. The call approved by the presbytery is renewable anytime during the last six months of the term. Working with the Committee on Ministry the session will complete a discernment process assessing the way forward for the congregation and the designated pastor.
9. The call cannot be changed or dissolved except by consent of the presbytery, at the request of the pastor or at the request of the session by action of the congregation, when the presbytery, after consultation with the minister and the congregation finds that the church's mission under the Word imperatively demands it, or when the term specified in the call expires without action having been taken to renew the call. The Denver Presbytery severance policy will be followed.
10. If there has been an open search process conducted and after at least two years of the designated pastor relationship, working with the Committee on Ministry the session will complete a discernment process assessing the way forward for the congregation and the designated pastor. Upon the concurrence of the Committee on Ministry, the designated pastor, and the session, acting in place of the pastor nominating committee for the single purpose of calling the designated pastor as pastor, a congregational meeting may be held to call the designated pastor as pastor. The session, with the concurrence of the Committee on Ministry, may call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee to conduct a full pastoral search or to prosecute the call to the designated pastor to become the called and installed pastor. The action of the congregation shall be reported to the presbytery. If the congregational action is affirmative, the presbytery, after voting to approve the new pastoral relationship, shall install the designated pastor as installed pastor.