



## EXTENSION MINISTRY ACCOUNTABILITY & RELATION TO CONFERENCE/CHURCH

Board of Ordained Ministry | South Carolina Conference | The United Methodist Church

### EXTENSION MINISTRY

**¶344.2. Relation to the Annual Conference—**a) **Accountability to the Annual Conference**—All clergy in extension ministries are amenable to the annual conference of which they are members and insofar as possible should maintain close working relationship with and effective participation in the work of their annual conference, assuming whatever responsibilities they are qualified and requested to assume. All clergy under appointment in extension ministries shall submit annually to the bishop, the district superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry a written report on the official form developed for the Church by the General Council on Finance and Administration for use by the annual conference. This report shall serve as the basis for the evaluation of these clergy in light of the missional needs of the Church and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination. All clergy formally evaluated by the institutions in which they serve will provide, instead of an evaluation, a narrative report reflecting their ministry. All clergy serving in appointments outside the conference in which they hold membership shall furnish a copy of their report also to the bishop of the area in which they serve. Annual conferences shall review the qualifications of persons in extension ministry status and integrate them into the ongoing work of the annual conference.

b) **Responsibility of the Annual Conference**—The bishop, representatives of the cabinet, and an endorsed representative from extension ministries within the Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide an opportunity to meet annually with clergy in extension ministries who perform their ministry within the bounds of annual conference, both of that annual conference and those who hold membership elsewhere. The bishop shall convene the meeting, which is to be planned by the cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry. The purpose of this meeting is to gain understanding of one another's role and function in ministry; to report to other ordained ministers appointed to extension ministries and discuss with them matters concerning the overall approach to ministry in the episcopal area; to interpret the role and function of extension ministries to the larger church through the offices of the bishop and his or her representatives; to nurture the development of various ministries as significant in assisting the mission of the Church; and to discuss specific programs and services that the bishop and his or her representatives may initiate, in which the various ordained ministers serving in appointments beyond the local church may be qualified as consultants and supervisors. Using the appropriate resources and personnel of the annual conference, the bishop shall provide for an annual visit to the ministry setting of all persons under appointment in extension ministries assigned within the geographical bounds of the annual conference and shall provide a report of the visit to the bishop of persons from other annual conferences.

**3. Relation to the Local Church—**a) All clergy appointed in extension ministries shall establish membership in a charge conference in their home annual conference in consultation with the pastor in charge and with approval of the district superintendent and the bishop. They shall submit to their home charge conference an annual report of pastoral duties and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination through their special appointment, including ministerial activities in the charge where they have an affiliate membership relation and in other units of the Church at large, as well as continuing formation experiences completed and anticipated. This report may be the one submitted to the bishop, district superintendent, and Board of Ordained Ministry (¶ 344.2a). District superintendents, because of the nature of their work and the relationship defined in ¶¶ 424.3, 363.1a, and 661, shall not be required to have a charge conference affiliation. All conference members who are elders in full connection, including those in extension ministries, shall be available and on call to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper as required by the *Discipline* (¶ 340.2b) and requested by the district superintendent of the district in which the appointment is held.

b) **Affiliate Relation to a Local Church**—All clergy under appointment to extension ministries and serving outside of the geographical bounds of their home annual conference shall promptly notify the bishop of the area in which they reside of their names, addresses, and the annual conferences in which their credentials are held. They shall be affiliate members without vote of a charge conference either within the district where they carry out the primary work of their appointment or within the district where they reside. Persons serving outside the geographic bounds of any annual conference are exempt from this requirement. The selection of the charge

conference shall be made after consultation between the person in extension ministry and the pastor of the local United Methodist church.

These clergy under appointment in extension ministries and serving outside the geographical boundaries of their home annual conference shall submit to the charge conference of which they are affiliate members a copy of the report submitted to their home charge conference and/or an oral report concerning their ministry and the fulfillment of their licensing or ordination. The district superintendent shall be responsible for the notification to these ministers concerning the time and place of the charge conference.

**4. Affiliate Relation to Annual Conference**—Ordained clergy appointed to extension ministries or appointments beyond the local church outside the boundary of their annual conference may at their own initiative apply to the Board of Ordained Ministry for affiliate membership in the annual conference in which their appointment is located or in which they reside. By a two-thirds vote of the clergy session, such clergy may be received with rights and privileges, including service on conference boards, agencies, task forces, and committees, with voice and vote but with voice and without vote in the annual conference session. Voting membership shall be retained in the appointee's home annual conference for the duration of affiliate member relationship. Nomination to general Church boards and agencies and election as delegates to General and jurisdictional conferences shall originate in the appointee's home annual conference. Such persons may serve on the board, agency, task force, or committee of only one annual conference at any one time.

**5. General Provisions**—*a)* These appointments shall be made only to positions related to adequate accountability structures, according to guidelines established by the Board of Ordained Ministry and cabinet in the annual conferences in which membership is held.

*b)* For information regarding pensions, the conference will continue to list the source of annuity claim for each of its clergy.

*c)* All conference secretaries shall submit to the editors of the General Minutes a list of such appointments beyond the local church made in their annual conferences, and there shall be published in the General Minutes a list of ordained ministers in the Church serving in the major categories under these appointments.

*d)* All clergy appointed to extension ministries shall attend the annual conference in which membership is held.

*e)* Individual participation in Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard units shall be reflected in annual conference journals.