

Voluntary Status Change					
2020 2024	Purpose & Initiation	Timeline	Limits	Required Approval	Return From
¶351.3 Formational and Spiritual Growth	For Formational or Spiritual Growth <i>Clergy</i>	Negotiated with appointment setting	Serving FT appt for at least 6 yrs. May last up to 6 mos.	S/PPRC, Church Council, DS	As planned
¶352 Sabbatical	Program of study or travel <i>Clergy</i>	Request 6 mos prior to annual conference	AM, FD, or FE w/6 yrs FT service or equivalent	Bishop appt, BOM rec, Clergy Session approval	Appt by Bishop
¶354.2a Voluntary Leave of Absence - Personal	Temporarily unable or unwilling to continue in appointment <i>Clergy</i>	Request through BOM, with copy to Bishop and DS, 90 days prior to annual conference	PM, AM, FD, FE; 5 year limit except w/ 2/3 vote of Clergy Session; not allowed if complaints or charges pending	Annual, by BOM and Clergy Session (majority approval up to 5 yrs; 2/3 approval after 5 yrs)	Request 6 mos prior to annual conf; ad interim request thru Bishop, Cabinet w/ approval by BOM Exec Comm
¶354.2b Voluntary Leave of Absence - Family	Temporarily unable to serve because of immediate family member's need for full-time care <i>Clergy</i>	Same as personal leave	Same as personal leave	Same as personal leave	Same as personal leave
¶353.4c(1) Transitional Leave - PD or FD	Needs to seek an appointment <i>Deacon</i>	At least 90 days prior to annual conference session	Up to one 12 mos period	Bishop, BOM Exec Comm	Upon appointment
¶353.4c(2) Transitional Leave - AM, PE, FE	Moving to or from Extension Ministry and Local Church Ministry <i>Clergy</i>	At least 90 days prior to annual conference session	Up to one 12 mos period	Bishop, BOM Exec Comm	Upon appointment

¶356 Maternity or Paternity	For birth or arrival of a child into home for adoption <i>Clergy</i>	90 days before start of leave	LP, PM, AM, FD, FE; up to 1/4 yr w/ compensation for no less than 1st 8 weeks	Bishop, Cabinet, BOM Exec Comm	As approved
¶358.2 Voluntary Retirement	Clergy seeking retirement and meeting requirements <i>Clergy</i>	Written request to Bishop, Cabinet, BOM at least 100 days before effective date unless waived by Bishop and Cabinet	Varies - see ¶357.2	Bishop, Cabinet, BOM Rec, Clergy Session	May receive appt while retired; return to effective relationship by request to BOM, Bishop, Cabinet, Clergy Session vote
¶359 Honorable Location	Clergy seeking to discontinue service in appointive ministry <i>Clergy</i>	Not Stated	FD, FE, or AM in good standing; retain ordination; surrender membership credential; restrict ministerial functions; may serve ad interim	BOM rec, Clergy Session approval	dCOM, BOM, Cabinet rec; Clergy Session approval; may require minimum 1 year service as LP (for FE/AM's) or in approved setting (FD) (¶366)
¶361.1 Withdraw to unite with another denominatio n	Desire to unite with another denomination <i>FD or FE</i>	Not Stated	Ordained in good standing; surrender membership credentials; keep ordination credentials	Clergy Session	dCOM, BOM, Cabinet rec; Clergy Session approval; at least 2 yrs as LP (for FE/AM's) or in approved setting required (FD) (¶366)

¶361.2 Withdraw from the Ordained Ministerial Office	Desire to leave ministerial office and withdraw from conference Ordained Member	Not Stated	Ordained in good standing; surrender membership and ordination credentials; transfer to local church membership	Clergy Session	dCOM, BOM, Cabinet rec; Clergy Session approval; at least 2 yrs as LP (for FE/AM's) or in approved setting required (FD) (¶366)
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Involuntary Status Change					
Status	Purpose & Initiation	Timeline	Limits	Required Approval	Return From
¶355 Involuntary Leave of Absence	a) Complaint unresolved w/in 90 days, or b) Action re. Admin Location (¶363) req. to address allegations <i>Bishop / DS</i>	Not stated	PM, AM, FD, FE; 3 yr. limit; Must follow Fair Process (¶363, ¶361)	Bishop, DS, CRC rec, BOM rec, 2/3 annual approval of Clergy Session. Involved members of BOM, CRC, ARC, and Cabinet shall not vote again in Clergy Session.	Written request by Bishop, DS, at least 6 mos prior to AC, BOM rec for end of leave, after 3 yrs a permanent status must be granted
¶358.3 Involuntary Retirement	To retire clergy w/ or w/o clergy consent <i>Cabinet or BOM rec</i>	Written notice 180 days prior to ac	Clergy members; Fair Process must be followed	CRC rec, BOM rec, 2/3 approval of Clergy Session	Rec by BOM, Bishop, Cabinet, 2/3 vote of Clergy Session from granting annual conference (¶367)
¶360 Admin. Location	When AM, FD, or FE is ineffective <i>Bishop, DS; BOM if occurring at the end of Invol Leave of Absence (this is exceptional)</i>	Not stated	Surrender membership credentials, retain ordination credentials, limited ministerial service	CRC rec, BOM rec, majority approval of Clergy Session	dCOM, BOM, Cabinet rec; Clergy Session approval, may require 1 yr service as LP (for FE/AM's) or in approved setting (FD) before membership returned (¶365)
¶361.3 W/draw under complaints or charges	When clergy is a named respondent and wishes to w/draw <i>Clergy</i>	Immediate	Membership, Ordination credentials deposited w/ conference	Clergy Session	dCOM, BOM, Cabinet rec; Clergy Session approval, at least 2 yrs service as LP (for FE/AM's) or in approved setting (FD) before membership returned (¶366)

¶363.7 Suspension	When complaint is filed; to protect complainant, congregation, Annual Conference, clergy, Bishop <i>Bishop</i>	Immediate	90-day limit; one 30-day extension allowed; suspended from responsibilities but not from appt	BOM Exec Comm	When complaint is resolved or clergy is placed on different status
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Status Changes that could be Voluntary or Involuntary						
Status	Purpose	Initiation	Timeline	Limits	Required Approval	Return From
¶320.1 Discontinue Local Pastor (LP)	To discontinue LP appt. relationship; for those who are not PMs	LP retirement; LP not approved; LP severs relationship; bishop discontinues appt	Not stated	Surrender license and credentials to the DS for deposit with conference secretary	Varies, Fair Process Hearing not required	Through dCOM with appt. from the bishop; LP receives a license if appointed after retirement
¶327.6 Discontinue Provisional Membership (PM)	To discontinue PM in annual conference	PM or BOM rec (w/o consent of PM)	Not stated	PM may request a Fair Process Hearing no later than forty-five days preceding AC; credentials surrendered if discontinued	CRC rec, BOM rec, majority approval of Clergy Session	May be approved as LP or readmitted by AC where they left w/ rec of dCOM, BOM, Cabinet, and Clergy Session approval (¶364)
¶357 Medical Leave Due to Medical and Disabling Conditions (Either Voluntary or Involuntary)	Unable to perform ministerial duties due to medical and disabling conditions	Clergy or Cabinet	Not stated	When involuntary, clergy has right to Fair Process Hearing; may not be used solely for medical conditions	Joint Committee on Clergy Medical Leave, CRC rec (if involuntary), BOM rec, majority approval of Clergy Session	Provide medical evidence of sufficient recovery; Approval of Cabinet, Joint Comm or CRC, BOM Exec Comm

¶358.1 Mandatory Retirement	At age 72 on or before July 1	Automatic	120 days prior to effective date, unless waived by the Bishop and Cabinet	Varies - see ¶357	Bishop, Cabinet, BOM rec, Clergy Session approval	May receive an appt in retired status
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