

Next Steps for the New Form of Government Decisions to be Made Sooner than Later

Short-term reference to 2009-2011 Book of Order

Adopt the 2009-2011 edition of the *Book of Order* as the guide for the administration of mission in _____ Church, except when:

- it conflicts with the 2011-2013 Form of Government or any subsequent versions of the Constitution of the PC(USA)
- it conflicts with the church's own current Bylaws, Standing Rules, or Manual of Administrative Operations, or relevant policies of the Presbytery of the Pacific or Synod of Southern California and Hawaii
- it conflicts with relevant civil laws
- it is amended by appropriate vote of the Congregation and/or Session.

Decisions Congregations Need to Make

- Determine the quorum for congregational meetings. (G-1.0501)
- Determine the period of minimum notice for a congregational meeting (G-1.0502)
- Determine whether the congregation wishes to adopt *Robert's Rules* as parliamentary authority.
- Determine the size and composition of the congregational nominating committee (G-2.0401)

Decisions Sessions Need to Make

- Whether to keep a list of inactive members (G-1.04)
- How will you prepare people for active membership? (G-1.0402)
- How will you examine those elected as deacons and ruling elders? (G-2.0104b)
- What term will the session clerk serve? (G-3.0104)
- Develop a manual of operations, including a sexual misconduct policy and a process for financial review. (G-3.0106, 3.0113, and 3.0205)
- Obtain property and liability coverage (G-3.0112)
- Determine the quorum for session meetings. (G-3.0203)

Decisions Presbyteries Need to Make

- What titles and terms shall we use for temporary pastoral relationships? (G-2.0504b)
- Shall the presbytery permit interim/ associate succession? (G-2.0504c)
- Who will preside at presbytery in the absence of the moderator? (G-3.0104)
- What term will the stated clerk serve? (G-3.0104)
- What plan will we use to determine how many commissioners each session should elect? (G-3.0301)
- What mechanisms and processes will we use to serve as pastor, advisor, and counselor to teaching elders and congregations? (i.e., shall we continue or transform the COM?) (G-3.0307)
- What mechanisms and processes will we use to guide, nurture, and oversee the process of preparing to become a teaching elder? (i.e., shall we continue or transform the CPM?) (G-3.0307)