

## **PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS PNC TRAINING I -OUTLINE**

Introductions

Opening Prayer and Brief Devotional

Brief Sharing by the PNC:

- How do you feel called to serve on the PNC?
- What hopes and expectations do you have for serving on the PNC?
- What gifts do you bring to serving on the PNC?

Getting Organized:

- Officers: Chair, Secretary, Technology Person, others?
- Meeting Times/Frequency

Time line:

- How long will this process take? Good question. Not an easy answer. Usually one year to fifteen months from the election of the PNC to the congregational meeting to call the Teaching Elder. Much depends on the leadership and organization of the PNC and how they work together and how they pace themselves. Encourage regularly scheduled meetings.
- The PNC Trainer and COM Admin will be available to the PNC during the beginning of the search process and towards the end as candidates are brought in for in-person interviews.
- We will check in with the PNC Chair regularly to assist in monitoring progress.

Confidentiality Circle:

- Includes the PNC, the COM admin, PNC Trainer and the POP Staff.
- The interim or supply pastor can be of support for process, encouragement, and referrals but is not included in the circle of confidentiality. We must emphasize how important confidentiality is throughout the whole process.
- Pastor's careers have been ruined when confidentiality among the PNC is not kept.
- The PNC is talking with candidates who are trying to discern God's call, potentially to another congregation or a first one. They are at a vulnerable stage in life. Encourage care and respect for this.

### Writing the MDP:

- The main resource that the PNC will use is the recent Mission Study that was approved by the COM.
- Encourage the PNC to appoint a writing team of two, possibly three persons to do the initial draft of each narrative question and the mission statement.
- Challenge the PNC to have an initial draft completed within four to six weeks.
- When the PNC has an MDP completed and ready to submit for approval, the PNC Chair sends it to the PNC trainer and COM Admin, who review it, consult together about any suggestions for editing, and send feedback to the PNC Chair with comments for recommended or required changes, and/or for submission to the Session for their review and approval.
- Walk through the different sections of the MDP with the PNC.
- Talk with the PNC about writing the answers to the narrative questions and encourage them to use language that is inviting, engaging, succinct, and does not use a great deal of “churchy language,” otherwise it will read like many of the MDP’s in the system.
- Well written answers to narrative questions are:
  - Honestly reflective of the life, mission, and ministry of the congregation;
  - Reflect what is written in the Mission Study;
  - Do not sound “needy” or like they are looking for Jesus Christ (a savior!) as their next pastor.

Ask for questions.

Close with Prayer.