

The Presbytery of Wabash Valley has asked Blackhawk Presbytery to concur on their Overture to amend the Directory for Worship:

PRESBYTERY OF WABASH VALLEY OVERTURE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Shall W-4.0404 be amended by adding constitutional questions to the service of installation of a minister of word and sacrament to be answered by members of the installing Presbytery.

- a. Will we, the Presbytery of _____ do everything in our power to uphold and support the pastoral relationship established this day between (pastor elect) and (congregation), to pray for them, to offer encouragement, and in all things work cooperatively to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church.*
- b. Do we the members of _____ Presbytery welcome (pastor elect) as a friend and colleague in ministry? Do we promise to work with (him/her), subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?*

Rationale

As G-2.0805 affirms, it is our understanding as Presbyterians that "Installation is an act of the presbytery establishing the pastoral relationship." That the call of a Minister of Word and Sacrament to service in the context of a particular congregation is a threefold call of: candidate, congregation, and Presbytery. Yet historically in our service of installation as outlined in the directory for worship we have only asked two members of this covenant relationship (congregation and candidate) to publicly and audibly answer constitutional questions affirming their commitment to live into this threefold covenant relationship. The Presbytery of Wabash valley would submit that it is incumbent upon us to give definitive expression to our belief that the call of a Minister of Word and Sacrament to service in the context of a particular congregation is a threefold call of: candidate, congregation, and Presbytery by inviting members of the installing Presbytery to publicly and audibly answer constitutional questions this affirming their place in this covenant relationship.