



## COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM) POSITION AND PERSON DESCRIPTION

(*Book of Order* G-2.06 thru G-2.0610)

**NWC Presbytery's Mission is** to engage, equip, and encourage congregations and their leaders, dispersed yet connected throughout the region, as together we faithfully serve Jesus Christ to transform the world.

**PURPOSE/OVERVIEW OF CPM** – To partner with the sessions of NWC Presbytery congregations in discerning whether an individual is called by God through the voice of the church to ordained ministry of Word and Sacrament. To fulfill the needs of the church regarding the process of preparation for ordained church leadership, exploring with persons a call to be Teaching Elders/Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, by entering into a covenant relationship with them to affirm and guide personal, educational, spiritual and professional preparation for this office.

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Those duties established in G-2.06 of the *PC(USA) Book of Order*.
2. Actions delineated in G-2.06 as provided for by the Constitution and delegated by the Standing Rules (SR-9.400c).
3. Nominate ordination exam readers, for election by the Presbytery, to the Presbyteries' Cooperative Committee on Examinations.
4. Evaluate applicants and award the Katie Allen Scholarship Funds and Miriam Snow Mathes Memorial Internship funds as established by NWC Presbytery.
5. Cooperate as requested by the Commission on Ministry (COM) in recruiting and providing for the training of people desiring to serve as Commissioned Ruling Elders (*BOO* G-2.10)

### PERSON DESCRIPTION

1. Prayerful, discerning, trustworthy and mature Christian who is passionate about God's mission through the church. Appreciates the joy and challenges of discerning and following God's call.
2. Builds and maintains trustworthy, encouraging spiritual relationships with discerners that may last several years.
3. Is able to engage in crucial conversations, share "hard truth" in a loving way so that the person and church may be edified.
4. Appreciates PC(USA) Polity and communal discernment—Demonstrates an appreciation for group counsel, consultation, and discernment of the Holy Spirit. Is patient and persistent with exercising pastoral judgment.
5. Appreciates difference--The people and sessions CPM members' interact with may be different culturally, economically, and theologically.
6. Listening focused--Is good at listening and interpreting what they have heard without having an unquenchable need to be heard.
7. Can synthesize and make sense of information from reports, references, conversation and other sources.
8. Willingness to invest their time, "energy, intelligence, imagination, and love" in CPM meetings and as a liaison to 1-3 discerners.



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**DESCRIPTION**

**PRAGMATICS**

Commitment: Members are elected for a 3-year term. The committee meets on the last Thursday of each month generally from 10am-3pm. In January of each year we participate in an overnight retreat to build familiarity and trust, orient members to this ministry, and set priorities for the future. Each member also assumes responsibility for being a liaison to 1-3 individuals preparing for ministry.

Communication Technology: CPM depends on extensive use of e-mail and web communication, video-conferencing, and cloud-based file sharing with *Dropbox*. CPM members should be comfortable with these basic internet skills.