On Calling A Pastor

Church Leadership Connection (CLC)

Office of the General Assembly
Mid Council Ministries
Ordered Ministries and Certifications
MISSION

“To help search committees and call seekers with a high likelihood of ‘fit’ to make an initial connection, relying on them to go deeper in exchange of information, conversation, and discernment.”
The call is a process of spiritual discernment that involves the call to an individual confirmed by a calling body.

CLC is a tool in this broader call process.

CLC is a web-based system that provides global access and visibility.

CLC policies are in compliance with the Book of Order.

CLC policies do not supersede the authority of mid councils but work in partnership to support presbytery mission.

CLC adheres to values of fairness and openness.
Who Can Use the System?

CLC is restricted to individuals who have standing within the PC(USA) and those with official ties to the denomination.
Who May Enter a Ministry Information Form (MIF)?

- PC(USA) congregations
- PC(USA) Joint Congregational Witness (Union Churches)
- PC(USA) educational and theological institutions
- PC(USA) conference centers
- PC(USA) General Assembly agencies
- Other entities, such as hospitals, nursing homes, and retirement facilities with official ties to the PC(USA)
Who May Enter a Personal Information Form (PIF)?

- PC(USA) teaching elders in good standing.
- PC(USA) candidates for ministry who have been certified “ready for examination for ordination, pending a call.”
- Christian educators, deacons, elders, and lay professionals who are members of a PC(USA) congregation.
- Ministers of other denominations who are transferring their membership to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and have completed the requirements for transfer except for the call.
Church Leadership Connection

HAVE AN ACCOUNT? LOGIN

New users select an option at left to get started. For assistance, contact a CLC consultant at (888) 728-7228, x8550 or email clcstaff@pcusa.org.

ON CALLING A PASTOR REVISION

The revised On Calling a Pastor resource for pastor nominating committees and mid councils prepared by Church Leadership Connection (CLC) will be released on March 2, 2015. The new resource will include a downloadable PDF, PowerPoints for “teach the teacher” training, and media resources to supplement the PDF.
ENTERING YOUR MINISTRY INFORMATION FORM (MIF)
The Ministry Information Form (MIF) provides a narrative picture of the mission and ministry of the congregation and its sense of call. Prospective pastors will use the description you provide on your form to help them discern whether God is calling them to serve your church.
Information to include on the (MIF)

Your Ministry Narrative Includes:

- Your unique ministry context
- Demographics
- Congregational history
- Theology
- Cultural context
- Values
- Leadership needs
- Vision for ministry
- Expectations
- Hopes and dreams
The MIF Has Two Parts

Part I

Part II
Asks for general information about your congregation (church size, racial ethnic composition, average worship and church school attendance, curriculum, presbytery, community type, and the clerk of session’s contact information)

Assigns a login and password
Your login will begin with a letter, followed by two numbers, then followed by your five-digit PC(USA) church PIN number (e.g., P0150639)

Asks about eligibility for the Seminary Debt Assistance Program
MIF Part II

- Asks for more in-depth information about your congregation
- Includes narrative questions
- Position type, employment status, language requirements, and leadership competencies
- Optional Matching such as special training and certifications, statement of faith requirements, sermon links, receiving PIFs from within the presbytery, and deadline dates
### Optional Matching Criteria Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need to Match?</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value To Match</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Employment Status</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Experience Level</td>
<td>2–5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Maximum Salary</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Language:</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Statement Of Faith:</td>
<td>Statement of Faith is required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Narrative Search:</td>
<td>(enter phrase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Optional Links: (i.e. sermons, lesson plans, articles, blogs, assessment results available, etc.)</td>
<td>Optional Links are required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES  NO</td>
<td>Actively Seeking:</td>
<td>Actively Seeking is required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES
Leadership Competency Categories

Choose up to 10 leadership competencies as your matching criteria.
Effective salary is simply defined as cash salary and housing allowance. For a full definition of Effective Salary, see the Board of Pensions definition: http://www.pensions.org/AvailableResources/BookletsandPublications/Documents/pln-103.pdf
Deadlines
Rolling; no more than 50 awards per year
Questions about the program? Contact Financial Aid for Service at 800-728-7228 ext. 5735 or email finaid@pcusa.org.
Ministry Information Form Narrative Questions

1. What is the congregation’s or organization’s vision for ministry? Additionally, describe how this vision is lived out.
2. How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency?
3. How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals?
4. Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation and/or organization.
5. For what specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?
“Connecting Calling Organizations with Call Seekers”
Resources for writing and submitting the MIF can be found at http://www.pcusa.org/clc under Calling Organizations. Instructions for completing the MIF Users Guides for the PNC chair and clerk of session. Downloadable forms in PDF and Microsoft Word formats.
CLC SUPPORT

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