



# The Congregation: G-1

Shea Watts and Courtney Shudak

# Overview

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- ▶ G-I covers “The Congregation”
  - ▶ Organization of a congregation
  - ▶ Membership ministry
  - ▶ Membership categories
  - ▶ Ways of joining
  - ▶ Congregational meetings

# G-1.01 *The Congregation*

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- ▶ Local church engaged in the mission of God in a particular context
- ▶ God gives the congregation the gifts needed
- ▶ Ministries: proclamation, sacrament, covenant life
- ▶ Fellowship
- ▶ Governance



## **G-1.02** *The Organizing of a Congregation*

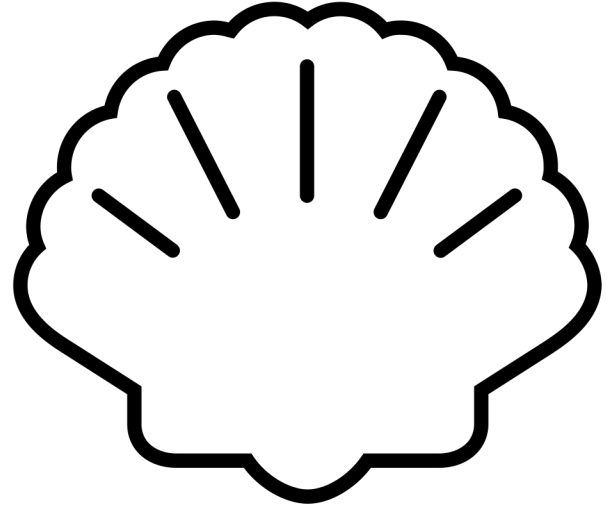
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- ▶ New Congregations apply to Presbytery
- ▶ Founding member covenant using specific vows
  - ▶ Desire to form congregation
  - ▶ Life in unity
  - ▶ Work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus
- ▶ Admission is up to Presbytery
- ▶ Presbytery helps to stand up approved new congregations

## **G-1.04** *Categories of Membership*

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- ▶ **Baptized**
- ▶ **Active**
- ▶ **Affiliate**
- ▶ **Other Participants**



# **G- 1.0303** *Ways to Join the Presbyterian Church*

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- ▶ 1. Profession of Faith and Baptism
- ▶ 2. Transfer of Letter from another Christian Church
- ▶ 3. Reaffirmation of Faith

## **G-1.05** *Meetings of Congregation*

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- ▶ Meetings *shall* be opened/closed in prayer.
- ▶ Special meetings -> congregation *shall* hold meetings as necessary; all present members are entitled to vote.
- ▶ Session, Presbytery, or by Session in writing by  $\frac{1}{4}$  active members.
- ▶ Business is limited at these meetings **G. I.0504**
- ▶ Moderator -> installed pastor or minister from Presbytery
- ▶ Clerk of Session -> secretary

# G-1.0504 Congregational Powers

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- ▶ **Matters related to the following:**
- ▶ 1. electing ruling elders, deacons, trustees
- ▶ 2. calling a pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor
- ▶ 3. changing existing pastoral relationship by reviewing terms of call for installed pastors
- ▶ 4. buying, mortgaging, or selling real property.



# Congregational Powers (continued)

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- ▶ 5. requesting from presbytery an exemption as permitted in the constitution
- ▶ 6. approving plan for creation of a joint congregational witness or amending or dissolve said witness
- ▶ 7. receiving a discipline decision against a member of the congregation as required in D-9.0102