

G-6.0106

Proposed Amendment 08-B does not change G-6.0106a but will replace G-6.0106b. See below for a comparison of the current and proposed language.

(a) To those called to exercise special functions in the church--deacons, elders, and ministers of the Word and Sacrament--God gives suitable gifts for their various duties. In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities, natural and acquired, those who undertake particular ministries should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. They must have the approval of God's people and the concurring judgment of a governing body of the church. [NOTE: This paragraph will not change]

Current G-6.0106b

Those who are called to office in the church are to lead a life

in obedience to Scripture

and in conformity to the historic confessional standards of the church.

Among these standards is the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman (W-4.9001), or chastity in singleness.

Persons refusing to repent of any self-acknowledged practice which the confessions call sin shall not be ordained and/or installed as deacons, elders, or ministers of the Word and Sacrament.

Proposed G-6.0106b

Those who are called to ordained service in the church,

by their assent to the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W-4.4003),

pledge themselves to live lives obedient to Jesus Christ the Head of the Church,

striving to follow where he leads through the witness of the Scriptures,

and to understand the Scriptures through the instruction of the Confessions.

In so doing, they declare their fidelity to the standards of the Church.

Each governing body charged with examination for ordination and/or installation (G-14.0240 and G-14.0450) establishes the candidate's sincere efforts to adhere to these standards.