

Appendix E: Guidelines for Establishing Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning Commissions

The Presbytery of East Tennessee has given authority to the Committee on Ministry to approve commissions for the Ordination and/or Installation of Installed Pastors and the commissioning of Ruling Elders as Commissioned Lay Pastors. The Church (or pastor) must furnish to the COM the following for approval at a Meeting of the COM no later than 3 months after being received as a member of the Presbytery of East Tennessee:

Ordination ___yes ___no Installation ___yes ___no Commissioning ___yes ___no

Date: _____ Time: _____

Place: _____

A commission shall be composed of a minimum of 2 Teaching Elders and 2 Ruling Elders, plus a fifth person who may be a Teaching Elder or Ruling Elder. These individuals should represent other congregations in the presbytery. There may be more than five. Guests of the commission may be invited as corresponding members. It is appropriate to invite the Moderator of the Presbytery to serve as Commission Moderator. If the Presbytery Moderator is unavailable, another moderator may be designated. If needed, all current members of the Committee on Ministry may fill in for a duly elected commission member if a commission member's absence brings the number of members participating to less than 5.

Please list the names of the commission members and guests, along with their ordination status and the name of the congregation they represent:

Guests of the Commission

The pastor to be ordained and/or installed, the PNC (or the Ruling Elder to be commissioned and Session) and the Commission Moderator will work cooperatively to plan the worship service. It is customary, but not required, that the worship service takes place in the afternoon to afford minister members of the Presbytery the opportunity to attend. There are occasions when the Ruling Elder may be commissioned at a Presbytery meeting at the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.

Please return to the moderator of the Committee on Ministry.