

List of Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the PC(USA)

Approved by the 225th General Assembly (2022)

Adapted from document prepared by Greg Goodwiller,

Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of St. Andrew

Direct implications for Carlisle Presbytery indicated in red

- 22-A F-1.0302c THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH (see also 22-B) – **see 22-B**
Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity
- 22-B F-1.0404 OPENNESS (see also 22-A) – **incorporate when amending policies**
Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity
- 22-C G-1.0501 MEETINGS (see also 22-M and 22-N) – **The by-laws for the Presbytery of Carlisle allow for electronic meetings.**
Establishes Robert’s Rules of Order (RONR) as the default parliamentary authority for congregational meetings, and authorizes electronic congregational meetings
- 22-D G-1.0503 BUSINESS PROPER TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS – **no on-going disciplinary process in Carlisle**
Adds receiving a disciplinary decision against a church member (as opposed to a minister) to the list of proper business at a congregational meeting
- 22-E G-2.0503 CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP – **Carlisle has 57 retired ministers**
Removes “honorably” before “retired” as the category for retired ministers
- 22-F G-2.0505a(1) TRANSFER OF MINISTERS OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS – **COM and CPM will have both more direction and flexibility in such cases**
Adds the requirement to consult with the other denomination when receiving immigrant pastors without otherwise acceptable PC(USA) ordination educational requirements
- 22-G G-2.0603 PURPOSE OF INQUIRY (see also 22-K, 22-L, and 22-O) – **Carlisle offers Boundary Training annually**
Adds the requirement of boundary training during the inquiry phase of preparation for ordination as a minister of the Word and Sacrament
- 22-H G-2.0605 OVERSIGHT - **aligns with current and developing Child Protection and Sexual Misconduct policies and guidance**
Adds a requirement of sessions to “report to the presbytery of any matters of sexual misconduct” of their members who are enrolled as inquirers or candidates
- 22-I G-2.0804 TERMS OF CALL - **Carlisle has Family Leave Guidelines aligned with this**
Adds the requirement of a minimum of twelve weeks of paid family leave in terms of call for all installed pastors/associate pastors
- 22-J G-2.1001 FUNCTIONS – **allows for greater flexibility with regard to CREs in that they can be commissioned to serve in more than one validated ministry**
Adds language allowing Commissioned Pastors to be commissioned to more than one validated ministry at a time

- 22-K G-2.1002 TRAINING, EXAMINING, AND COMMISSIONING (see also 22-G, 22-L, and 22-O) – **Carlisle offers Boundary Training annually**
Adds the requirement of boundary training for those elders seeking to be Commissioned Pastors
- 22-L G-2.1103 CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS (see also 22-G, 22-K, and 22-O) – **Carlisle offers Boundary Training annually**
Adds the requirement of boundary training for those elders seeking to be certified as Christian Educators
- 22-M G-3.0104 OFFICERS (see also 22-C and 22-N) – **The by-laws for the Presbytery of Carlisle allow for electronic meetings.**
Adds language that “it is appropriate” to adopt procedures for electronic session meetings
- 22-N G-3.0105 MEETINGS (see also 22-C and 22-M) – **The by-laws for the Presbytery of Carlisle allow for electronic meetings.**
Adds provision that all councils and their commissions and committees may meet electronically
- 22-O G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (see also 22-G, 22-K, and 22-L) – **Carlisle has a Sexual Misconduct policy and Child and Youth Protection policy that will need to be reviewed in light of these requirements**
Adds language regarding boundary training, including sexual abuse to the requirement for sexual misconduct policies required of councils
- 22-P G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION – **Carlisle has no antiracism policy**
Adds the requirement of an antiracism policy to the required policies of councils, and clarifies other language in that list
- 22-Q G-3.0303c RELATIONS WITH SESSIONS – **Carlisle has guidelines for dissolution**
Authorizes presbyteries to establish minimum requirements for severance packages in terms of call
- 22-R G-3.0401 COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES – **No direct impact on Presbytery**
Authorizes synods to enroll those serving terms in elected offices of the synod as additional members of the synod as a way to fulfill principles of participation and representation
- 22-S G-4.0301 TRUST AND CONFIDENTIALITY – **Clarifying for pastors, CREs, COM, and leaders what confidentiality is (safe space) and is not (secrecy)**
Expands and clarifies “confidentiality” requirements for ministers and commissioned pastors
- 22-T W-3.0205 CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS – **Directory for Worship already says Baptism “ordinarily” follows proclamation**
Adds administration of the sacrament of Baptism to the list of appropriate actions following the proclamation of forgiveness in a service of worship

- 22-U W-3.0409 THEOLOGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER- **underscores pastoral discretion in the invitation to baptism.**
Adds "when appropriate" to the recommended act of providing an invitation to baptismal preparation for those who come to the table who are unbaptized
- 22-V W-3.0414 COMMUNION – **offers flexibility in the prayer after communion**
Removes the current requirement that a minister of the Word and Sacrament lead the prayer of thanksgiving that concludes the Lord's Supper liturgy
- 22-W W-4.0403 ORDER OF WORSHIP – **move from more to less restrictive language**
Adds a sentence about "signs and symbols of blessing" to the section on ordination and installation services
- 22-X W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (see also Y) – **lifts up role of household worship**
Adds a sentence on the importance of household worship in faith formation in the Reformed tradition
- 22-Y W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (see also X) – **lifts up role of household worship**
Adds an additional paragraph to the existing section on household worship
- 22-Z W-5.0201 THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH – **emphasizes communal discipleship**
Adds "discipleship" to a list of the Church's ministries that are connected to its worship, and adds references to statements in the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity
- 22-AA W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE – **descriptive rather than specific language**
Adds "particular specialized pastoral care" rather than adding to an existing list of such specialties
- 22-BB W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE – **healing not necessarily physical recovery**
Adds clarifying language in a section on "services of wholeness" to better express a Reformed understanding of those services
- 22-CC D-3.0106 WHEN JURISDICTION ENDS – **no on-going disciplinary process in the Presbytery of Carlisle**
Allows a disciplinary process to continue after an accused has renounced jurisdiction
- 22-DD D-10.0302 IF CHARGES ARE TO BE FILED - **humanizes the accused person**
Grammatical change to an existing provision of the Rules of Discipline
- 22-EE D-10.0303 PETITION FOR REVIEW – **attempts to remove bias in language use**
Amends the current Rules of Discipline to include notifying the person accused if no charges will be filed (instead of just the person(s) who made the accusation)
- 22-FF AMENDING THE USE OF "THE ACCUSED" IN THE CURRENT RULES OF DISCIPLINE – **humanizes the accused person**
Changes "the accused" to "the person accused" wherever it occurs in the current rules of Discipline

22-GG

REPLACING THE CURRENT “RULES OF DISCIPLINE” WITH A NEW
“CHURCH DISCIPLINE” SECTION – **easier to understand and follow**

Proposes a complete revision of the Rules of Discipline