

D.1.I – The congregation should be informed in a general way of the procedures involved in the calling of a pastor. On his or her last Sunday in the pulpit, the pastor shall read the Presbytery's Statement of Ethics to the congregation.

NOTE: To be read from the pulpit at the dissolution of a pastorate or other pastoral relationship on the last Sunday and at the Congregational meeting to call a new pastor and that it be presented to the congregation in writing (by publishing in the Church newsletter and/or in a letter to the Congregation) around the time of the call.

When a pastor leaves a charge for whatever reason, there are bonds of affections that still tie that pastor and congregation together. Individuals among the church membership retain friendships with the former pastor. On this day of beginning for (name of church) the Presbytery takes this opportunity to remind church members that only the moderator of the session can invite a former pastor to participate in the life of this congregation in any professional or pastoral role, such as weddings, funerals and baptisms. Today is the beginning of a new era in (name of church)'s history. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.