OVERSIGHT OF CANDIDATES

Eastern Pennsylvania Presbytery of the PCA

1. Shepherd from the Shepherding Team:

 a. Definition: a Shepherd is a member of the Shepherding Team who provides oversight to a candidate.

 b. Purpose: The purpose of the shepherd is to provide the candidate a contact with the Presbytery throughout his candidacy for ordination. If a shepherd is unable to continue in this capacity, the Shepherding Team will arrange another shepherd to provide oversight.

 c. Process: The shepherd will meet with the candidate on a regular basis (to be determined by the shepherd and the candidate) to pray with him, provide encouragement to include attending presbytery meetings occasionally, provide counsel, and to review with the candidate his annual reports and those of his instructors. The shepherd will also review with the Shepherding Team his progress and reports.

2. Church Mentors:

 a. Definition: A mentor is a teaching or ruling elder from the endorsing Session who can give oversight to the candidate.

 b. Purpose: The purpose of the mentor is to provide the candidate a contact from the Session throughout his candidacy for ordination. If a mentor is unable to continue in this capacity, the Session will arrange another mentor to provide oversight.

 c. Process: The mentor should meet with the candidate on a regular basis (to be determined by the mentor and the candidate) to pray with him, provide encouragement to include attending session meetings occasionally, provide counsel and to review with the Session and the candidate’s progress and the annual report made by the candidate. However, the mentor will especially focus on the candidate’s spiritual and family life to include his commitment to involvement in church life.