

COM 6.2 GUIDELINES FOR COMMISSIONING OF RULING ELDERS TO PARTICULAR SERVICE IN MAUMEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY

2019 version

As you plan for your Commissioning the following are norms and practices which have characterized our life together in Northwest Ohio and Southern Michigan.

Ordinarily, a Commissioning takes place on a Sunday afternoon on a date which is negotiated between the candidate to be commissioned, the congregation to be served and the Moderator of the Presbytery of Maumee Valley. The date of the worship service must be at least 10 days after the date at which the COM approves of the commission, so please do plan ahead early and consult with our Moderator first!

The Commissioned Ruling Elder is ordinarily the initiator of the conversation.

The 2019 Moderator of the Presbytery of Maumee Valley is:

CRE Tom Polker, First Presbyterian Church, Napoleon

419.592.7736 or 419.592.0933 email: tompolker@gmail.com

If the Moderator is unable to participate, he may appoint the Vice Moderator, who is Commissioned Ruling Elder Janeane Hopkins. Her number is 567.623.2746. Her email is jnphop@woh.rr.com.

Once a date is agreed upon by these three entities, a Commissioning Commission is recommended to the Committee on Ministry for their approval. This commission is comprised of at least five individuals from Maumee Valley Presbytery – in as nearly equal numbers as possible of ruling elders and teaching (ministers). The ruling elders must be from different churches. So, one might have three elders from three different churches and two ministers. Or, one might have three ministers and two elders from two different churches. The Committee on Ministry meets the evening of the last Tuesday of the month. The Chairperson for 2019 is

Ruling Elder Ron Boyd of First Presbyterian Church of Upper Sandusky. His number is 419.294.4521 and his email is rboyd13@woh.rr.com

If you want to invite additional persons from outside of the Presbytery to participate, you may do so. While these persons are not members of the commission, it is customary to list them as “Others to be invited to participate are.....”

The Book of Order outlines the questions to be asked by the Moderator, and a format for the service in W – 4.4000. The Commissioning is an act of the Presbytery.

The offering received at this worship service is designated to the Pastoral Support Fund of the Presbytery which provides for the unmet needs of clergy and church professionals in times of difficulty.

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On the day of the Commissioning, the Commission gathers. The Moderator opens the meeting of the Commission with prayer. A clerk pro temp is appointed to take the minutes of the meeting, which ordinarily contain the names of the participants, the dates, and the motion to install. After instructions regarding the service, a motion is made that the work of the commission be concluded with the benediction. The clerk pro temp then is responsible for sending minutes to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery who is Rev. Dean McGormley. He can be reached at dmcgormley@gmail.com.

You are encouraged to invite area clergy, area Presbyterian Churches and indeed, friends and family. The Presbytery has a website and an email communication system. Send your announcement or invitation to Sara McLaughlin (mclaughlinsara75@gmail.com) if you would like your invitation to be placed on the website. Send your invitation to belinda@maumeevp.org if you want the invitation to be emailed.

We welcome you to Maumee Valley Presbytery.

Rev. Dr. Matt Meinke

General Presbyter

matt7okc@gmail.com

419.423.9073 work

609.216.0093 cell