

Validated ministry in the Presbytery of Wabash Valley is established in the following three (3) ways, in conformity with G-2.05:

- Called and installed, validated by usual call process
- Honorably Retired – 299 (AEOD-authorized ecclesiastical occupational designation) – validated by presbytery
- Criteria for validating OTHER ministries – validated ministry (791 –AEOD). When the following criteria are met, the ministry of a previously ordained teaching elder may be validated by the Commission on Ministry:
 - a. chaplain – hospital, military, institution (e.g. assisted living, continuous care, etc.)
 - b. counseling – if the ministry is also
 - i. accredited by a professional organization
 - ii. has an oversight board of directors
 - iii. the ministry is affiliated with a church for oversight and reporting
 - c. educational
 - i. is called to serve as a professor or member of a faculty (644 – AEOD)
 - ii. the ordained person is called into administration and qualifies as 642, 643 - AEOD
 - iii. student (648 – Authorized Ecclesiastical Occupational Designation)/enrolled in a degree program related to ministry
 - d. missionary/fraternal worker (405-AEOD) –with oversight by a board
 - e. under contract/call by a presbytery, synod or the General Assembly
 - f. If the teaching elder is not validated by the above criteria, all the following criteria shall be met:
 - i. demonstrate conformity with the mission of God’s people in the world as set forth in Holy Scripture, The Book of Confessions, and the Book of Order of this church;
 - ii. serve and aid others, and enable the ministry of others;
 - iii. give evidence of theologically informed fidelity to God’s Word;
 - iv. be carried on in accountability for its character and conduct to the presbytery in addition to any organizations, agencies, and institutions served; and
 - v. include responsible participation in the deliberations, worship, and work of the presbytery and in the life of a congregation of this church or a church in correspondence with the PC(USA) (G-5.0201). [These 5 criteria are taken from G-2.0503 and the G.A.’s “2011-2013 Advisory Handbook for Ministry Committees/ Commissions”]
 - g. In all validated ministries the above criterion in “f.v.”, shall always apply. Teaching Elders wishing to be engaged in a validated ministry shall participate in a local congregation and shall attend at least two (2) Assemblies of the presbytery annually.
- A teaching elder who does not meet these criteria may be designated as a member-at-large as long as the teaching elder complies with G-2.0503b and “f.v.” above.
- All Validated Ministries, outside the congregation, are to be reviewed annually by COM.