



PARISH ASSOCIATE POLICY

Presbytery of Chicago

A parish associate is a teaching elder member of Chicago Presbytery who wishes to establish a covenant relationship with a particular congregation. The annual, one year term renewable relationship, shall be established, upon nomination by the installed or temporary pastor, between the parish associate, the session, and the presbytery. A Parish Associate has neither voice nor vote on the session. The parish associate shall be responsible to the installed or temporary pastor, as head of staff, and may serve on an “as needed, as available” basis with or without remuneration or as listed in their covenant agreement. Parish associate relationships ordinarily do not exceed ten hours per week.

May Not Be Next Installed Pastor: A parish associate may not be called to be the next installed pastor or associate pastor of a church served as parish associate, unless at least one year has elapsed since the end of the parish associate relationship.

Dissolution of the Relationship: The parish associate serves at the pleasure of the installed or transitional pastor but only for such time as the current installed or transitional pastor is and continues to be in relationship with the congregation. The parish associate relationship may be renewed with a subsequently installed or transitional pastor with the approval of session and the concurrence of the Commission on Ministry. While the covenant relationship of the Parish Associate may be dissolved, the teaching elder/minister of word and sacrament may continue to worship and be involved in the life and ministry of the congregation in consultation with the Commission on Ministry.

The covenant will be reviewed annually by session and may be renewed and/or amended by mutual agreement of the parish associate, the installed or transitional pastor, and the session and the concurrence of the Commission on Ministry.