

Ethical Training Policy Update

In 2021, the Commission on Ministry of Pittsburgh Presbytery adopted a new set of requirements for ethical training. The new policy requires all Pittsburgh Presbytery members who are active in ministry complete the current ethical training seminar within their first two years as a member of the Presbytery and complete one ethical training elective every two years after that.

For the purpose of this policy, “actively engaged in ministry within Pittsburgh Presbytery” is defined as:

- Teaching elders currently serving in a pastoral position within a congregation.
- Commissioned Pastors and Certified Christian Educators currently serving within a congregation.
- Teaching elders serving in a validated ministry role.
- All teaching elders participating in pastoral services including: pulpit supply, moderating sessions, occasional pastoral care, teaching within a congregation, or serving as a Parish Associate.

Failure to comply with this policy will have the following consequences:

- It will be reported as part of any reference check to another Presbytery and to a COM Clearance Committee.
- A continued pattern of non-compliance with this policy will result in COM requesting the Stated Clerk place a notation on the minister’s file with the Office of the General Assembly. This notation will be removed when the requirements are completed.

In addition to the standard ethical training, COM hopes to offer two electives per year that will satisfy the requirements. Members may also submit an offering of their own choosing for approval by COM to fulfill this requirement.

On November 9th, 2022, from 9 am – 2 pm, we will be offering “Setting Limits in a Shifting Landscape” led by Rev. Dr. Graham Standish. You can find more information [here](#)

If you have further questions, you can contact Cathy Nelson (cnelson@pghpresbytery.org). The full policy can be found on our website