

Transitional arrangements for the new Ministry of Pastor

From: Terence Corkin
Assembly General Secretary

As part of the decision to move to a simplified approach to non ordained specified lay ministries the 11th Assembly resolved to close applications for the three existing non-ordained ministries of Community Minister, Lay Pastor, and Youth Worker. The Assembly recognised that there were people serving in these ministries who might want to explore a call to become ordained as Ministers of the Word or Deacons. A task group, convened by Rev Dr Dean Drayton, considered the transitional arrangements that should apply to people who might take these steps.

The Task Group on Transitional Arrangement for the Specified Ministry of Pastor reported to the March meeting of the Assembly Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has approved a full process that will guide applicants, presbyteries, and synods on how to process applications from these three groups and how to most effectively support transitions from non-ordained ministry to ordained ministry.

The minutes from the recent ASC are currently being prepared. Presbyteries and Synods will be advised directly and further information will be posted on the National Assembly website as soon as possible.