

Ministry of Pastor update

From: Terence Corkin
Assembly General Secretary

The Implementation Task Group on the Specified Ministry of Pastor presented its first report to the recent Assembly Standing Committee. The ASC responded to the substantial report by addressing itself to a number of matters of policy and principle which will guide the ongoing work of the Task Group.

Some of the issues raised include the definition and scope of ministry, issues around appointment processes, and questions regarding in what situations pastors should be members of the councils of the church by virtue of the ministry that they exercise. A decision was made on what constitutes “continuous service” for persons currently serving in the specified ministries of Community Minister, Lay Pastor, and Youth Worker and the Assembly Legal Reference Committee has been asked to assist the Standing Committee with drafting the appropriate wording to achieve the outcomes sought by the ASC.

Certain issues brought to the committee were also referred to the Church Polity Reference Committee for its advice.