

## Exception for Three-Year Parish Rule

Service as a mission developer shall be considered as congregational service under the terms of bylaw 7.41.12. when such service is approved by the synodical bishop and the executive director of the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit and a call has been issued by the synod council where the mission development is located.

Requests for exception to the "three-year parish rule" (7.41.12.) are addressed to the Roster Committee of the Conference of Bishops.

- A. The Global Mission unit and the Office of the Presiding Bishop for military chaplaincies, with the approval of the Roster Committee of the Conference of Bishops, may seek and provide a call for candidates who have not completed the expected initial three-year experience of congregational service.
  1. Each request is to come directly from the candidate to the Roster Committee of the Conference of Bishops. A statement by the candidate, which provides an explanation of pertinent circumstances surrounding the request, is to accompany each request.
  2. Each request also must be accompanied by a letter either from the Global Mission unit, the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit, or the Presiding Bishop's executive assistant for federal chaplaincy ministries that indicates the desire to place the person in specific areas of responsibility.
  3. Synod designation for a person ordained from seminary to serve in global-mission work or military chaplaincy will be determined by:
    - a. reassignment to a synod of the candidate's choice;
    - b. reassignment to the synod of original candidacy; or
    - c. remaining, upon the candidate's choice, in the synod of assignment determined in this church's candidacy process.
- B. For other candidates and persons already rostered, requests for exceptions to the three-year provision must be reviewed by the Roster Committee of the Conference of Bishops.
  1. Other candidates requesting waiver of the three-year congregation service rule for pastoral service in non-congregational settings must file application with the Roster Committee of the Conference of Bishops.
  2. The application is to be accompanied by:
    - a. a statement by the applicant outlining the circumstances and reasons for the request;
    - b. a letter from the synodical bishop; and
    - c. a statement from the churchwide unit, synod-related institution, or organization that is seeking the person for service.
- C. By decision of the Conference of Bishops [CB92.10.48], exceptions to the three-year pattern of congregational service *for global mission and military chaplaincy* are to be approved by the Roster Committee and reported to the Conference of Bishops for ratification.

*Revised November 2008, following Church Council approval.*