

Section 8.1 – Boundary – Anti-Racism

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Clergy Policy regarding Required Healthy Boundary and Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training for Active Ministers with Standing

Healthy Boundaries Training: All active clergy, both ordained and commissioned, are required to complete six hours of Healthy Boundaries Training for Clergy every four years beginning in 2020. Approved training is provided by the Northern Lights Region. Other options may be: courses offered by other regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), member denominations of Churches Uniting in Christ, or trainings approved by the Commission on Ministry on a case by case basis.

Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training: All active clergy, both ordained and commissioned, are required to complete six hours of Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training every four years beginning in 2022. Approved training is provided by the Northern Lights Region. Other options may be: courses offered by other regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), member denominations of Churches Uniting in Christ, or trainings approved by the Commission on Ministry on a case by case basis.

Active clergy, including Retired-active, both ordained and commissioned who fail to complete either of the required trainings in the year they are due may have commissioning/standing removed, not for cause. Commissioning/standing may be reinstated after training is completed. Clergy whose trainings are overdue in excess of more than one year from the time standing was revoked must meet COM policy requirements to have standing reinstated.

Special Circumstances:

- In-care candidates seeking ordination, commissioning, or standing should enter the training cycle at the earliest opportunity and must complete six hours of Healthy Boundaries Training and Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training prior to approval for ordination, commissioning, or standing.
- Clergy transferring standing from another region should enter the training cycle at the earliest opportunity. Clergypersons must also either have completed a Healthy Boundaries Training and Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training within the past four years, or complete an approved course within one year.
- Retired-inactive clergy are not required to complete these trainings. However, retiredinactive clergy who wish to re-enter active ministry must enter the training cycle at the earliest opportunity. If the pastor has not participated in a Healthy Boundaries Training and Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training within the past four years, approved courses must be completed within one year.
- Clergy who hold dual standing and are required to complete Healthy Boundaries Training on a more frequent cycle may be granted a waiver by the Commission on Ministry upon request.

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47 • Ordained, commissioned, in-care, and transferring clergy who completed six hours
48 of an approved Healthy Boundaries Training and/or Anti-Racism/Pro-
49 Reconciliation Training within six months prior to entering the training cycle may
50 request a waiver from the Commission on Ministry for upcoming training.

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Approved by the Northern Lights Regional Board on March 17, 2024