

Possible Amendment to BOG 10-7

Current Language	Proposed Language Changes in bold italics or strikethrough
<p>10-7 Temporary Pastoral Relationships</p> <p>A. Temporary Pastoral Relationships may be established with lawfully ordained Ministers or Commissioned Pastors when a church is without a pastor.</p> <p>1. Transitional Pastor</p> <p>a. A Transitional Pastor is called by the Session to serve during the period a congregation is seeking a Pastor. The Transitional Pastor intentionally leads the congregation toward greater health and readiness for their next pastor and will ordinarily be appointed by the Presbytery to moderate the Session during the time of service.</p> <p>b. Due to the temporary nature of the call, Transitional Pastors called from another Presbytery in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church will ordinarily maintain membership in their home presbytery.</p> <p>c. Upon approval of the Ministerial Committee, Transitional Pastors are introduced to the receiving presbytery and enrolled as corresponding members (voice but not vote).</p> <p>d. If a Transitional Pastor is called from outside the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the presbytery shall examine and transfer the pastor according to applicable provisions of this <i>Book of Government</i>.</p>	<p>10-7 Temporary Pastoral Relationships</p> <p>A. Temporary Pastoral Relationships may be established with lawfully ordained Ministers or Commissioned Pastors when a church is without a pastor.</p> <p>1. Transitional Pastor</p> <p>a. A Transitional Pastor is called <i>invited</i> by the Session to serve during the period a congregation is seeking a Pastor. The Transitional Pastor intentionally leads the congregation toward greater health and readiness for their next pastor and will ordinarily be appointed by the Presbytery to moderate the Session during the time of service.</p> <p>b. Due to the temporary nature of the call <i>position</i>, Transitional Pastors called <i>invited</i> from another Presbytery in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church will ordinarily maintain membership in their home presbytery.</p> <p>c. <i>Transitional Pastors from outside the Evangelical Presbyterian Church are invited by the Session and shall be interviewed and approved by the Presbytery, or the Ministerial Committee, if authorized by the Presbytery.</i></p> <p>d. <i>Upon approval Transitional Pastors are introduced to the receiving Presbytery and enrolled as corresponding members (voice but not vote).</i></p> <p>d. shall <i>may</i> examine and transfer the pastor according to applicable provisions of this <i>Book of Government</i>, <i>or approve the invitation to serve as Stated Supply. (footnote citing BoG 10-7 A.2.a)</i></p>

Rationale: Temporary Pastoral Relationships are by invitation for a specified time and therefore do not require examination for presbytery membership, only interviewing for suitability to the task. Those pursuing a Transitional Pastor ministry as their fulltime calling would be examined for presbytery membership as *Evangelist* according to **BOG 9-5 C.3** as itinerant ministers for Transitional Pastor specialization.

Current Language	Proposed Language Changes in <i>bold italics</i> or strikethrough
<p>9-5 The office of Teaching Elder</p> <p>A. Pastor</p> <p>1. Titles</p> <p>A Teaching Elder may be called by a congregation to be a Pastor or Associate Pastor. Sessions may call a Teaching Elder as Assistant Pastor, Transitional Pastor, or invite a Teaching Elder as Stated Supply Pastor, or Occasional Supply Pastor. Presbytery must approve all such positions. These are the only recognized callings for Teaching Elders in a congregational setting.⁵⁴ The office of the “co-pastor” is not a constitutionally recognized calling in a local church. Except as otherwise provided in the Book of Government, the Pastor of the church shall be the Moderator of Session.</p> <p>C. Evangelist</p> <p>A Teaching Elder may be called by a court of the church or by some organization approved by the Presbytery to serve as an Evangelist. Evangelists may serve as missionaries, church planters, or in an itinerant ministry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>An Evangelist serving as missionary</u> has as a primary duty the preaching of the gospel. The Presbytery may authorize the Teaching Elder to administer the sacraments in that role. When a Teaching Elder is called by the General Assembly as an Evangelist⁵⁷ the Presbytery may also empower the Evangelist to ordain and install Ruling Elders and Deacons to serve in emerging national churches that are not part of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in accordance with applicable rules and regulations established by the General Assembly. 2. <u>An Evangelist serving as church planter</u> may be entrusted by the calling court to develop churches, to conduct preparational meetings of such churches, and to oversee the required preparation of Elders and Deacons. 3. <u>An Evangelist serving in an itinerant ministry.</u> Teaching Elders may be called 	<p>9-5 The office of Teaching Elder</p> <p>A. Pastor</p> <p>1. Titles</p> <p>A Teaching Elder may be called by a congregation to be a Pastor or Associate Pastor. Sessions may call a Teaching Elder as Assistant Pastor, Transitional Pastor, or invite a Teaching Elder as Stated Supply Pastor, or Occasional Supply Pastor <i>or Transitional Pastor</i>. Presbytery must approve all such positions. These are the only recognized callings for Teaching Elders in a congregational setting.⁵⁴ The office of the “co-pastor” is not a constitutionally recognized calling in a local church. Except as otherwise provided in the Book of Government, the Pastor of the church shall be the Moderator of Session.</p> <p>C. Evangelist</p> <p>A Teaching Elder may be called by a court of the church or by some organization approved by the Presbytery to serve as an Evangelist. Evangelists may serve as missionaries, church planters, or in an itinerant ministry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>An Evangelist serving as missionary</u> has as a primary duty the preaching of the gospel. The Presbytery may authorize the Teaching Elder to administer the sacraments in that role. When a Teaching Elder is called by the General Assembly as an Evangelist⁵⁷ the Presbytery may also empower the Evangelist to ordain and install Ruling Elders and Deacons to serve in emerging national churches that are not part of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in accordance with applicable rules and regulations established by the General Assembly. 2. <u>An Evangelist serving as church planter</u> may be entrusted by the calling court to develop churches, to conduct preparational meetings of such churches, and to oversee the required preparation of Elders and Deacons. 3. <u>An Evangelist serving in an itinerant ministry.</u> Teaching Elders may be called to

to serve in a ministry of itinerant evangelism that does not involve church planting.	serve in a ministry of itinerant evangelism that does not involve church planting or <i>may serve as Transitional Pastors where needed.</i>
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Rationale: Teaching Elders *called* to an ongoing ministry as Transitional Pastors are moveable (itinerant) but not temporary since they move from one Transitional Pastor position to another. For Teaching Elders *invited* to serve in a *temporary* Transitional Pastor role see **BOG 10-7.A**