

**Appointive Recommendation 2011-2012
Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee**

Clergy: _____ **Charge:** _____

Introduction: The key to an effective appointive process is open communication and consultation between and among the Committee(s) on (Staff) Pastor Parish Relations, pastor(s), Bishop, and the Appointive Cabinet. The District Superintendent, acting on behalf of the Bishop, works directly with the local church (Staff) Pastor Parish Relations Committee(s) and pastor(s) to enable the appointive process to reach an acceptable conclusion. The (Staff) Pastor Parish Relations Committee has an important advisory function and is an active participant in the consultative process. [2008 Book of Discipline, ¶ 433]

An understanding of the appointive process is important. It includes the following dimensions:

In the United Methodist system, clergy are appointed by the Bishop (and Cabinet) rather than called by a congregation.

Appointments take into account the “gifts and graces” of those appointed and the “needs, characteristics, and opportunities of congregations and institutions.” Appointments are made in the context of a faithful commitment to an “open itinerancy,” which means that they are to be made “without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, color, marital status, or age . . .”

Each appointment is for a year at a time, subject to annual review, evaluation, renewal, or change.

A change in an appointment may be initiated by a pastor, a Committee on (Staff) Pastor Parish Relations, a District Superintendent, or the Bishop.

The Committee’s Recommendation and the Pastor’s Assessment about whether a pastoral appointment should be continued or changed are subject to the final decision of the Bishop.

The Committee’s Recommendation and the Pastor’s Assessment are part of the consultative process between the District Superintendent and the PPR.

Instructions: Please invite all members of your Committee(s) on (Staff) Pastor Parish Relations to commit this matter to prayer prior to making a recommendation. At a meeting of the Committee(s) on (Staff) Pastor Parish Relations, please review and come to your recommendation, making note of any differences of opinion that may be evident. The form is to be signed by every member in attendance on that occasion. The completed and signed form is to be returned to the office of your District Superintendent by **December 15th**.

Please answer the following questions and then check the one that is the consensus of your (Staff) Parish Relations Committee:

How have you been supportive of your clergy's' need for spiritual formation and renewal? Explain.

What has your committee done in the past year to encourage and strengthen your clergy and his or her family? (if applicable)

Do you meet regularly with your clergy for honest and open discussion?

Is there something specific concerning your present clergy leadership that you wish to share with your District Superintendent?

Without a vote, what is the consensus of your SPR Committee?

____ Our mission can best be met with the leadership of our current clergy leadership.

____ Our mission can be met with our current clergy, but we would also be open to a new clergyperson who has skills in the area of _____.

____ Our mission can best be met with a new clergy, but our current clergy may return.

____ Our mission can best be met with a new clergy.

As noted above pastors are appointed one year at a time. IF there is a pastoral change: What qualities do you as the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee believe are important for a pastor of this charge?

The following people have created and seen this report:

PPR Chairperson _____ Date _____

PPR Committee _____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

PPR Committee _____ Date _____
_____ Date _____
_____ Date _____
_____ Date _____
Pastor's Signature _____ Date _____