

Clergy Mentor Policy

The Susquehanna Board of Ordained Ministry desires that candidates for ministry at each level have a mentor to guide, encourage and assist them as they work, serve and grow. We believe that this can best be accomplished if the Clergy Mentor-Mentee relationship is a relationship in which both persons can be honest without fear of repercussions when doubts, concerns and struggles are shared. That honesty would be compromised if Mentors are required to write reports and/or evaluations. We ask that Mentors/Mentees hold the highest standard of confidentiality, breaking confidence only in a situation where you are legally bound as a mandated reporter or if there is a threat to harm self or others. Thus, Mentors will be asked to verify the dates of meetings and that the mentee is participating in the meetings, i.e., the mentee engages in conversation. The Mentor is non-evaluative in the sense that the Mentor's evaluations are not passed on the DS, DCOM or BOOM.

Considering this need for confidentiality, it would be preferable to assign persons as mentors who do NOT serve on DCOM or BOOM.

- Clergy Mentors for Local Pastors: shall submit quarterly reports to the DCOM (chair, registrar or district office as preferred by each DCOM) and to the Local Pastor's registrar and DS. The report will only indicate the dates of meetings and that the Local Pastor is participating in the meetings. Mentors are encouraged to attend DCOM interviews with the Local Pastor as a silent, prayerful presence. Mentors who are on DCOM will not participate in the interview or discussion/vote. Due dates: September 10, December 10, March 10, May 10
- Clergy Mentors for Provisional Members: shall submit quarterly reports to the Elders' or Deacons' Registrar, as appropriate, and DS, indicating the dates of meetings and that the Provisional member is participating in the meetings. Mentors will attend BOOM interviews with the candidate as a silent, prayerful presence. If the mentor is unable to attend or is a member of BOOM, the mentor and provisional member will choose another elder or deacon to be present. Due dates: September 10, December 10, March 10, May 10