

**Presbyterian
Church of Aotearoa
New Zealand**
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**Methodist Church
Of New Zealand**
Te Hāhi Weteriana O Aotearoa
P O Box 931
CHRISTCHURCH 8140
Information Leaflet 35

MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF MINISTRY

In 1990 the Presbyterian Church General Assembly and the Methodist Church Conference accepted, that within prescribed guidelines, Presbyterian Ministers and Methodist Presbyters could be appointed or stationed to Parish appointments within either Church.

This information leaflet has been prepared to address matters of remuneration and related issues for Ministers serving under the other Church.

These revised regulations take effect for any appointments commencing after 1st September 2009. Existing appointments will continue under existing conditions unless there is agreement by all parties to apply these new regulations. Any changes made to existing agreements will be made with the consent of the Parish, Minister, Presbytery or Synod of the church of Oversight and (in cases of churches under Methodist Oversight) Mission Resourcing. No retrospective payments shall be made.

Any changes to the conditions of ministry of either partner shall be informed to the other partner, and shall take effect immediately they are approved by the partners appropriate governing body

Updated and approved 2009

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PROCESS OF APPOINTMENT

The left side of the following diagram indicates the process to be followed by a Methodist Minister seeking a call to a Presbyterian Church parish, while the right side indicates the process to be followed by a Presbyterian Minister seeking to be stationed within a Methodist Church Parish.

Appointments to Union Parishes and Co-operative Ventures will follow the process of the Denomination of oversight.

Methodist Minister	Presbyterian Church	Presbyterian Minister	Methodist Church
Minister's Initiative	Parish Initiative	Minister's Initiative	Parish Initiative
Contact PCANZ Personnel Advisor to have name placed on the Ministers Available for Call List/complete Ministers' Information Form	Ministry Settlement Board (MSB) approaches the Minister.	Contact Mission Resourcing Director.	N/A
Minister advises Synod Superintendent and Mission Resourcing as soon as any approach is made and keeps them informed	MSB consults with Synod Superintendent and Mission Resourcing before advising acceptance of call/appointment.	The Mission Resourcing Director or Synod Superintendent consults with Minister's Presbytery.	Methodist Stationing Process
	The Presbyterian Process follows	Minister is listed on the stationing sheet and follows the Methodist process.	After the initial stationing of a Minister a face to face consultation is held with the parish prior to the appointment being confirmed.

When appointed,
the Minister
advises Mission
Resourcing

When appointed,
the presbytery
advises the
PCANZ
Personnel
Advisor

Note 1: To participate in this process a minister must.

1. Be in 'Good Standing' with their Denomination
2. Not be in the process of a Disciplinary procedure as respondent
3. Be acceptable to the appointment process of their own Denomination
4. Be willing to work under the discipline and ethos of the appointing Church.

Note 2: Within the Methodist Stationing process, the completion of a personal profile by a Minister indicates that they are part of the stationing process.

TERM OF APPOINTMENT

When reading the information on stipends and related issues it should be noted the term of 'appointment' or 'call' will commence on the day of the induction of the Minister and ends on the day the appointment terminates.

STIPENDS AND ALLOWANCES

The Stipend and Allowances of the Denomination of origin will apply. That is a Presbyterian serving in the Methodist Church will serve under Presbyterian terms and conditions and a Methodist serving in the Presbyterian church will serve under Methodist terms and conditions.

However this does not apply to ministers who transfer to the other denomination.

In all cases where this covenant may apply, the details of this agreement, any other relevant regulations (i.e. details of denominational regulations), and any individual implications (e.g. leave owing, seniority allowance, training required, etc) should be brought to the attention of the Minister/s and Parish/es.

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER SERVING WITH THE METHODIST CHURCH

Superannuation

The Presbyterian Minister shall not be required to join the Methodist Church Supernumerary Fund. Rather, their membership in the Presbyterian Church Beneficiary Fund will continue during the appointment. The personal contributions of the Minister will be deducted from their stipend at the rate required by the Presbyterian Church Beneficiary Fund. The Methodist Church parish shall also make contributions to the Presbyterian Church Beneficiary Fund at the rate prescribed by that Fund.

Seniority Allowance

The Presbyterian Minister will continue to receive a seniority allowance payment which will be paid by the Methodist parish.

Note: Methodist Parishes do not offer a stipend above the standard stipend rate.

Long Leave

The Presbyterian Minister will not gain entitlement to the Methodist long leave provisions during this appointment.

Study Leave

The Presbyterian Minister shall be entitled to study leave as approved by the Presbyterian Church.

An entitlement of 1 day's study leave for each month of service. The maximum accumulation is 84 days which could be accumulated after 7 years of service.

A Minister is not permitted to take study leave within the first two years of an appointment or within 2 years of turning 66.

Ministry Development

The Presbyterian Minister must participate in the Presbyterian Church's Ministry Development Programme in order to maintain their Certificate of Good Standing. This programme includes a minister review every two years, and the completion of any training set as an outcome from this review, and confirmation that the Minister's parish has complied with the Methodist Church's requirements for a parish review. Please refer to the Presbyterian Church's Ministry Development Programme Booklet for the complete list of criteria. This is in addition to study leave. The minister's profile should state any training required by the PCANZ current at the time of application.

Status within Church Courts

The Presbyterian Minister stationed within a Methodist parish will be a full voting member of the Methodist District Synod and Methodist Conference.

A Presbyterian Minister stationed to a Methodist parish is automatically granted the status of Other Recognised Minister or may apply for the status of Member of the Presbytery in which they reside.

A Presbyterian Minister will be received into Full Connexion with the Methodist Church Conference.

Removal of Household and Personal Effects

The Methodist Church takes responsibility for the costs of moving Ministers into a Methodist Parish. Within the limits imposed by the Removal Fund the costs of moving a Presbyterian Minister into a Methodist parish would be paid by the Methodist Church.

If the parish to which the minister is appointed is a Cooperative Venture, the parishes chosen removal fund will pay the removal costs to move the minister into the parish.

At the conclusion of the appointment the process followed by the Church making the next appointment would be followed. If at the conclusion of this appointment the Minister is retiring the cost of moving to their retirement home is paid by the Minister and not by the Methodist or Presbyterian Church or the parish of their last appointment.

Discipline

A Presbyterian Minister in a Methodist appointment is required to conduct themselves to the standards set out in the Presbyterian Church's Book of Order and Code of Ethics. In leadership and ministry, the Minister will operate according to the Laws and Regulations and ethos of the Methodist Church of New Zealand.

In the event that a process of discipline needs to be followed and it relates to the Methodist appointment, the procedures as set down by the Methodist Church will be followed. Therefore before a Presbyterian Minister is stationed by the Methodist Church the Minister must be supplied with a copy of the Laws & Regulations of Methodist Church and their attention drawn to the sections relating to discipline and complaints procedures.

The Presbyterian Church will be advised at the commencement of the disciplinary process by the Methodist General Secretary contacting the Presbyterian Church's Assembly Executive Secretary. The outcome of the disciplinary process will be deemed to apply for both churches.

Where a matter of discipline arises after the Methodist appointment has concluded, or where it relates to a previous appointment, the Methodist Church will refer the matter to the Presbyterian Church and its processes.

METHODIST PRESBYTER SERVING WITH THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Superannuation

The Methodist Presbyter shall not be required to join the Presbyterian Church Beneficiary Fund. Rather, if they have membership in the Methodist Church Supernumerary Fund it will continue during the appointment. The personal contributions of the Presbyter will be deducted from their stipend at the rate required by the Methodist Church Supernumerary Fund.

The Presbyterian Church parish shall make contributions to the Methodist Church Supernumerary Fund at the rate prescribed by that Fund.

Seniority Allowance

The Methodist Presbyter will NOT be entitled to receive a seniority allowance payment from the Presbyterian Church.

Long Leave

The Methodist Presbyter will continue to accumulate and use their entitlement to long leave. The number of weeks of long leave owing must be declared as part of the appointment process.

A maximum of ten weeks long leave will be permitted at one time irrespective of the number of weeks accumulated. The Methodist Church of New Zealand Stipends assistance fund will not pay for a Methodist serving in a Presbyterian parish.

Study Leave

The Methodist Presbyter shall be entitled to study leave as approved by the Methodist Conference. Details of this leave outlined in the current Information Leaflet no 7 shall apply.

A Minister is entitled to 7 days study leave in each year of service.

Study leave which is not used is forfeited except that;

Study leave over a two years period can be accumulated and taken at one time.

In addition, every four years a Minister may take one month's study leave:

- (a) with the agreement of the Superintendent of the Synod and the Parish,
- (b) to engage in an educational venture approved by Mission Resourcing.

Ministry Development

The Methodist Minister in a Presbyterian appointment will complete any Ministry Development requirements and Presbyter reviews required by the Methodist Church of New Zealand.

Status within Church Courts

A Methodist Minister filling an appointment within a Presbyterian parish will be automatically granted the status Other Recognised Minister of the Presbytery, and may apply for the status of Member. They may attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church as that parish's commissioner.

A Methodist Minister filling an appointment within a Presbyterian Parish remains a member of the local Methodist Synod.

A Methodist Minister will leave their credentials with the Presbytery

Removal of Household and Personal Effects

For a Methodist Minister accepting a call to a Presbyterian parish, the costs of moving the Minister are the responsibility of the parish.

At the conclusion of the appointment the processes followed by the Church making the next appointment would be followed. If at the conclusion of this appointment the Minister is retiring, the Methodist Church will move a Methodist Minister from a Presbyterian parish to their initial retirement home.

Discipline

A Methodist Minister in a Presbyterian appointment is still subject to the Laws and Regulations of the Methodist Church of New Zealand. In leadership and ministry, the Minister will operate according to the Book of Order and ethos of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

In the event that a process of discipline needs to be followed and it relates to the Presbyterian appointment, the procedures as set down by the Presbyterian Church will be followed. Therefore before a Methodist Minister is called by the Presbyterian Church, the Minister must be supplied with a copy of the Presbyterian Church's Book of Order and their attention drawn to the sections relating to discipline and complaints procedures.

The Methodist Church will be informed at the commencement of the disciplinary process by the Presbyterian Church's Assembly Executive Secretary contacting the Methodist General Secretary. The outcome of the disciplinary process will be deemed to apply for both Churches.

Where a matter of discipline arises after the Presbyterian appointment has concluded, or where it relates to a previous appointment, the Presbyterian Church will refer the matter to the Methodist Church and its processes.

REVIEW

After the completion of nine years in an appointment(s) a review of the Ministry should take place. This review should be the responsibility of the denomination for whom the Minister is exercising Ministry. Such a review would be undertaken in consultation with the other denomination and will involve the Methodist Church Mission Resourcing and the Presbyterian Church Personnel Team.

It is normally expected that at the end of an appointment a Minister would return to an appointment in their own denomination. However, if there is a second appointment, at its completion a review of the Ministers relationship to their home Church will be undertaken.

This document does not attempt to detail the full regulations relating to stipends, housing, leave and removals.

For the Methodist Church information leaflets are available at <http://il.methodist.org.nz>.

For the Presbyterian Church see: Conditions of Service Manual which can be downloaded here: <http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-parishes/book-of-order>