

CONSULTATION  
WITH ASSOCIATE PASTOR AND SESSION  
WHEN THE PASTOR LEAVES

The status of an Associate Pastor is

- *unaffected by the death or resignation of the Pastor.*

The Associate is

- *not expected to resign,*

***but***

- *cannot become the pastor.*

The Committee on Ministry will counsel with the Session and with the Associate Pastor as soon as the Pastor gives notice of intent to leave.

Issues to be considered in this consultation include:

- *the prohibition of succession*
- *the advisability of calling an Interim Pastor, who will serve as Moderator of the Session*
- *the anticipated responsibilities of the Associate during the interim*
- *the possible revision of the Associate Pastor's position description when a new pastor arrives*
- *whatever else could be helpful in affecting a smooth transition*