

(CP) COMMISSIONED PASTOR
Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
www.pslpcusa.org

GUIDELINES FOR MENTORS OF COMMISSIONED PASTOR CANDIDATES

(Approved 08/05/2025)

A minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley shall be assigned as a mentor and supervisor for participants in the Commissioned Pastor program. (G-2.1004

The following guidelines for mentors are meant to nurture the relationship between the CP and Mentor:

1. The Mentor should help the Candidate to understand their call to ministry and recognize their gifts for that call.
2. The Mentor should pray with and for the Candidate and share information about practices of personal devotion and self-care including daily Bible reading, regular devotional exercises, or insights from their own ministry that might enrich the Candidate's efforts.
3. The Mentor should be accessible to the Candidate throughout the course of study. The Mentor should be prepared to address concerns or answer questions and give support on a regular basis through scheduled in-person conversations, email, and/or phone as needed.
4. When the Candidate begins to make sermon preparations, the Mentor should be available to provide help and feedback. This is an area in which the Candidate will need the most help. A sermon feedback form will be provided.
 - a. Beginning with the first sermon preparations, the Candidate will be requested to provide a recording of his/her sermon to the Mentor for feedback.
 - b. The Mentor may arrange for the Candidate to practice in a congregational setting where he/she may receive feedback and become familiar with such a setting.
 - c. The Mentor may arrange for the Candidate to preach in his/her local congregation in lieu of preaching before Presbytery prior to his/her commissioning.
5. Once commissioned, the CP will be responsible for maintaining regularly scheduled contact with the Mentor. This can be done in-person, by email, or phone for support, accountability, encouragement, advice, and fellowship.