2024 Edition

Table of Contents

Foreword			
Introduction			
Section 1	PRINCIPLE BASED GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	5	
	The EC Discipline "Principle Based Leadership" Section 300 to 320	7	
Section 2	EVALUATING YOUR CURRENT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	13	
	Overview	15	
	An Important Reminder	15	
	Evaluation Form	17	
Section 3	CHOOSING YOUR GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	21	
	Choosing Your Governance Structure	23	
	Preamble to the Leadership Model options	24	
	Leadership Model Options	25	
	Official Board Model of Governance	26	
	Ministry Council Model of Governance	29	
	Pastor Led Model of Governance	32	
	Staff Led Model of Governance	35	
	"Essentials" Check List for All EC Governance Structures	38	
	The Local Conference	39	
	Congregational Meetings	40	
Section 4	MOVING TO A NEW GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	41	
	Moving to a new Governance Structure	43	
Section 5	PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE	47	
	Preface	49	
	NC Rule on Pastoral Relations Committee	50	
	Biblical Resolution Process	52	
	Rules of Conference "Initiating a Pastoral Change"	53	
	Process of Facilitating Pastoral Change	54	
	Questions to ask in assessing whether or not to request a pastoral change	55	
	Process in receiving a new pastor	55	
	Pastoral appreciation suggestions	56	
Section 6	RESOURCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY	59	
	Pastoral Job Description: Sample	61	
	Pastoral Evaluation Process: Introduction	65	
	Pastoral Evaluation Process: Recommended Guidelines	66	
	Pastoral Evaluation: Sample	67	
	Leadership in the E. C. Church	69	

Profile of an E. C. Pastor	71
Essential Qualities for a Pastor in the Evangelical Congregational Church	72
National Association of Evangelicals Code of Ethics for Pastors	76
National Association of Evangelicals Code of Ethics for Congregations and	
Their Leadership Teams	80
Portrait of a Biblical Leader: A Bible study	83
Goals, Mission and Vision	84
Bibliography	87
Transition Resources	89
Membership Certificates	90