ANSELM BOOK *of* PROCEDURES

2026-2029 TRIENNIUM

This document represents the Book of Procedures for Anselm Presbytery for the 2026-2029 triennium, maintained in accordance with CREC Constitution Article IV §6 and BOP Article I.

*This document includes **only** those Articles that amend the CREC BOP.*
The remainder of the 2026 CREC Book of Procedures is incorporated into this document by reference.

Modifications from the CREC BOP are indicated as follows:
Highlighted green text represents additions; ~~struck red~~ text represents deletions.

Article IV. Mission Churches

A. Purpose

To provide guidelines for the establishment of a relationship between a sponsoring church (i.e., mother church) and a mission work (i.e., daughter church), and to set forth the conditions for the particularization of that mission church.

B. Definitions

1. Mission church: A constituted body of Christians under the oversight of a particularized church whose intent is to establish a new particularized church.
2. Particularized church: A constituted body of Christians who have met all the criteria established by this policy to become a separate church governed by its own session.

C. Procedure

1. Mission Church

A church shall be considered a mission church of a member CREC church when the following conditions have been met:[1]

a. The mother church informs the presiding minister of presbytery at least 30 days prior to establishing the mission church.

b. A constitution has been written to define and govern the mission work.

i. The mother church approves the constitution and doctrinal standards of the mission church (which may or may not be identical to the mother church's).

ii. The mother church appoints a session *pro tempore* over the mission church.

iii. The mother church notifies the presbytery of the establishment of the mission church.

iv. These actions put the mission church into existence.

c. Under this constitution and session *pro tempore*:

i. New members can be received.

ii. The mission's constitution may be modified by its own amendment process.

iii. New officers may be examined, ordained and installed.

2. The Session

a. The session *pro tempore* of the mission church shall be composed of all or some designated part of the session of the mother church along with any duly elected and installed pastors/elders of the mission church until the rest of the conditions for particularization have been fulfilled.

b. The session *pro tempore* shall not be the session of the mother church, but only the session of the mission church.

[1] The additions to this section were approved by presbytery in 2026/09/30:03 (see 2026 minutes, page 11).

c. Upon the particularization of a church, the pastors/elders from the mother church who had been assigned to serve pro tempore on the mission church's session shall no longer necessarily be members of the new session. However, they may continue to serve as *pro tempore* elders should the new church deem it useful.

d. Acts of session *pro tempore* must be appealed first to the regular session of the mother church, whose acts may in turn be appealed to the CREC, as per Constitutional procedure.

3. Conditions for Particularization

a. The mission church shall have its own constitution and bylaws. The sponsor church shall submit the constitution and/or bylaws of their new church to the presbytery no later than 45 days prior to the stated meeting of the presbytery, for inclusion on the agenda of that meeting.

b. The mission church shall have been formally constituted for not less than two years.

c. The mission church shall have at least two member pastors/elders, not including pastors/elders of the mother church who have been assigned to serve *pro tempore* on the mission church's session.

d. The mother church may require other conditions.

e. The session of the mother church has formally acknowledged that conditions for particularization (a-d above) have been met.

f. Presbytery acknowledges that conditions a-e above have been met, and does so by receiving the mission church into presbytery membership.

4. Relationship to the CREC

a. All mission churches of CREC member churches shall automatically have mission status in the CREC.

b. This mission status may be maintained until the mission is particularized.

c. Once conditions are met for particularization, the mission church shall be eligible for full CREC membership at the next CREC presbytery meeting.

d. As extensions of a member CREC church, all mission churches shall meet the constitutional and doctrinal requirements of the CREC.

e. As extensions of a member CREC church, all mission churches shall have the protection of the CREC courts and other CREC constitutional protections and requirements.

5. Ordination of Teaching and Ruling Elders

a. As the daughter church is under the oversight of the mother church (a CREC member), all ordination exams shall be conducted under the oversight of the mother church and according to CREC guidelines.

b. The actual ordination and installation of officers shall be conducted under the oversight of the mission church session *pro tempore*.

6. Termination of Relationship
    a. Termination of the relationship between mother and daughter church can happen in two ways:
        i. The daughter church becomes particularized, defined by being received into CREC membership;
        ii. A decision by the mother church's session to terminate the relationship.
7. Visits
    a. It is recommended that representatives of the mother church visit the mission church on a regular basis (perhaps quarterly), sometimes to conduct meetings or worship, and sometimes to observe.
    b. It is also recommended that the mission church cover the expenses of the mother church (e.g., travel and honorarium).