



Presbytery of Coastal Carolina

"Cultivating Generosity"

807 West King Street • Elizabethtown, NC 28337-9587

VOICE: 910-862-8300 • FAX: 910-862-3524

www.presbycc.org



To: Qualified and Commissioned Ruling Elders of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina

From: Elder Ministries Committee, Commission on Ministry

Re: Continuing Education Requirements

Date: November 21, 2016

Thank you for your service to the congregations of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina! Without your committed service, many of our congregations would be without regular pastoral leadership and without regular preaching of the Gospel and the blessings of the sacraments.

Part of our commitment to an educated ministry is the preparation that each of you undertook before being recognized as either a Qualified or Commissioned Ruling Elder. In addition (similarly to ordained ministers) we expect our Qualified and Commissioned Ruling Elders to continue their education in order to better service their congregations. That is why the Commission on Ministry requires that congregations provide both time and financial resources for your continued education. Our expectation is that you will undertake **at least 20 contact hours** of continuing education per year and report it to the Elder Ministries Committee on the form enclosed by the end of October each year. (A contact hour is time spent in a class or lecture or time spend doing an approved directed study.)

The Committee on Elder Ministries has also committed itself to provide 20 contact hours of continuing education for you in addition to other options that you may discover for yourself. Some options for continuing education include:

- Lecture series provided by congregations or institutions in our area
- Wee Kirk or other regional or national conferences
- Online classes through one of our seminaries
- Directed study or reading program worked out with the approval of the chair of the Elder Ministry Committee (CRE Bebe Briggs) or the Dean of the CRE program (Dr. Ron Crossley)

Please use the attached form to report continuing education events/programs/courses of study that you undertake during the year. Keep track of your continuing education hours and send this form back to the Presbytery office **by October 31, 2017**. (For CREs in a congregation, the Committee on Ministry recommends that you and appropriate members of the session work together to plan for your continuing education each year based on agreed upon areas of study.)

Bebe Briggs

Bebe Briggs, Chair of Elder Ministry Committee