**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

**CAREER COUNSELING INFORMATION**

**Approved October 24, 2023**

 People who want to become Inquirers can arrange to go through the career counseling program at any time after they or their pastor have contacted the CPM chairperson or Presbytery staff resource person. This can be either before or after they have appeared before the session for endorsement. They must, however, complete the career counseling program before they meet with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

 The counseling center will provide materials giving details about their counseling programs. It is usually a multi-day experience including time to explore the results of career and personality tests, life experiences and issues, and any concerns related to life changes for individuals and families that are part of any decision to explore or be educated for the ministry. The program includes several hours of counseling.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry also believes that it is helpful for the spouse or fiancé (if applicable) of the potential inquirer to share in this career counseling experience if it is possible. The ministry has a definite effect on marriages and families, and these issues can be discussed during the counseling time. It is also very helpful for the spouse or fiancé to know what their partner is experiencing.

 The CPM has approved one location for career counseling. It is:

Presbyterian Counseling Center

Contact: Laura Bond Walker, Admin Dir

386-258-1618 by phone or text

386 S Atlantic Ave #208

Ormond Beach, FL  32176

[www.presbyteriancounseling.com](http://www.presbyteriancounseling.com/)

 The current cost of the career counseling program is $1050. The CPM’s policy is that the cost of the career program be shared by the potential inquirer, the sponsoring church, and the Presbytery—with each paying 1/3 (or $350 each). If an inquirer would like to use a different center in some other part of the country, the CPM Chairperson or Presbytery staff person must approve this alternative. However, the Presbytery will still pay only $350 of the cost.