

**Board of Ordained Ministry  
California-Pacific Conference  
Covenant Groups**

**Statement of Purpose:**

The purpose of covenant groups is to provide for their members support, accountability, resources, and encouragement in Christian discipleship. The provisional period is a time to develop patterns and habits to sustain ministry over the years. Covenant groups support this process by:

- Encouraging spiritual disciplines
- Encouraging discipleship in acts of justice
- Seeking to discern god's call in pastoral and personal situations
- Support development of members' ministerial identity and leadership

It is mandatory to attend all Covenant Groups which are held at the end of the Residency In Ministry (RIM) events organized by the Board of Ordained Ministry until you have completed all 8 RIM credits. Covenant Group time is formatted by the Orders Executive Committee. Once you have completed all 8 RIM credits you are expected to form or join an existing Covenant Group with fellow Provisional Members or other UM Clergy. You need to meet with your Covenant Group a minimum of three (3) times a year. Group meetings are to be confidential with no evaluative link to the Board of Ordained Ministry.

**Additional Information on Format:**

- If you have completed your 8 RIM events required by the Board, and have formed a new covenant group according to the parameters above, please note that each group forms its own covenant, in keeping with the Statement of Purpose. The group covenant should include the kinds of topics the group will discuss, the format, and the way group members will provide support and accountability to each other.
- Membership will be throughout the provisional period.

**Covenant Group Report due May 1st each year**

Every year that you are in the Provisional Process you must submit a Covenant Group Report to Cathy Wilson due May 1<sup>st</sup>. This report should be sent to her via email at [cwilson@calpacumc.org](mailto:cwilson@calpacumc.org), in a pdf format.

The report should be simple, concise and include the following:

- Names of people in your group.
- Dates that your group met.
- Basic format of the group (do you share and pray together, read a book and discuss, is this an online or in person group, etc.).
- How the Covenant Group was helpful to you in the past year.

If you have questions about this report please contact RIM Chair, Rev. Jessica Stryko, [revjess@anaheimumc.org](mailto:revjess@anaheimumc.org).