

## Who do we contact to talk about this service?

- Call our offices in Winston-Salem at (336) 759-3456
- Directly contact Larry Hovis, CBFNC Executive Coordinator, who may be reached at [lhovis@cbfnc.org](mailto:lhovis@cbfnc.org).
- Contact the Ministerial Transitions Facilitator in your region.

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# Resources for the Interim

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina  
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**The interim period that begins when the former minister leaves the church can be a difficult time for a congregation. It is often filled with anxiety as the congregation wonders how it will get along without its minister. The church sometimes worries about what will happen without pastoral leadership. It can also be a time when the church struggles with issues that have been dormant for some time.**

The interim need not be a time of high anxiety and worry. It can be a positive time when the church can clarify its mission, determine its expectations for its next minister and develop a spiritual discernment as it seeks God's leadership.

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina can help your church have a healthy interim by assisting you to answer the following questions that many churches and their leaders have about the interim:

### **What kind of Interim does my church need?**

There are basically four kinds of interims when your pastor leaves:

- Part-Time Traditional Interim
- Full-Time Traditional Interim
- Intentional Interim
- Part-Time Traditional Interim with a Ministerial Transitions Facilitator

Someone from our CBFNC office will be happy to direct you to the person on our staff who is trained to describe these different kinds of interim.

### **What determines the kind of Interim that my church needs?**

- Issues that your church may be facing
- Financial resources available
- Staff and lay leaders in your congregation
- The community where your church is located

### **Where can we find the Interim Minister that we may need?**

- We will offer the names of ministers who serve as Traditional Interims, either part time or full time
- We will work with the Center for Congregational Health of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital to secure an Intentional Interim

### **How does the search committee go about its search?**

- Upon your invitation, we will have a Ministerial Transitions Facilitator meet with your committee to accomplish the following tasks:
  - Assist the search committee in developing a healthy and effective search process
  - Direct the search committee to other resources available to them
  - Be available to the committee throughout the search process to answer questions and to guide the process
- Offer the resumes of ministers that match up with the mission of the church and the expectations for its next pastor

### **What is the cost of this resource to our congregation?**

If you are a congregation that supports / partners with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina, then our resources for the interim come at no cost to you. This is a service that we offer in response to your support of our ministries.

Should your search committee want a coach to work with them throughout the entire process in a closer than usual relationship, there is a minimal expense to your church.

### **Are there search committees who have had a positive experience using the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina as a resource?**

Yes!

Evalynn Davis, who served as the chair of the Pastor Search Committee of the First Baptist Church of Elkin writes that the CBFNC Ministerial Transitions Facilitator "got to know us, know our church and his advice and leadership always originated from that point. We had superlative leadership from him."

Having been a minister himself, Richard Poindexter, who chaired the Pastor Search Committee of the First Baptist Church of Monroe, says that he probably knew "more than the average Baptist about the pastor search process," but he goes on to say, "I could not imagine having done this task without the assistance" of CBF of North Carolina.