

CPM approval: December 2023

Policy #6 - Policy on Personal Statement of Faith

At each step in the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) process, there is a requirement to submit a personal statement of faith.

- Inquiry – A Faith Statement is required as part of Form 1B, question #3.
- Candidacy – Write a one-page Faith Statement that must be sent as a separate Word document to the Presbytery office (cajames@atlpcusa.org).
- Final Assessment – Write a one-page Statement expressing where you are today. This should be a clear articulation of the candidate's faith within the framework of the Reformed Tradition. It should not be a copy or paraphrase of a Confession.

In all cases, the Statement of Faith should be a series of "I believe" statements which express the most important theological / doctrinal convictions of the applicant. It should express the foundational beliefs which will undergird and inform the Inquirer's or Candidate's ministry. Applicants are encouraged to use their own language and style and are not confined to the forms and language of the Apostle's Creed or other existing creedal statements. The Statement of Faith should reflect some engagement with a range of theological issues and topics that the Church has historically found to be important (e.g. Trinity, Sacraments, Church, etc).

For purposes of CPM, a description of one's faith journey (which is a biographical document) cannot substitute for the personal Statement of Faith.