

HONORARIA FOR SUPPLY MINISTERS

A Suggested Policy for the Churches of Providence Presbytery

The Presbytery office has been asked a number of times to provide the information on what amount the **Honorarium** should be when a minister supplies the pulpit on a Sunday, when the pastor is away or when the church is vacant. The following is a suggested amount (remember - the church can pay what it chooses!):

I. The Amount of the Honorarium:

- A. Churches under 50 members are encouraged to pay a minimum honorarium of not less than \$60, which should be supplemented by an additional mileage reimbursement, if the supply minister must travel more than 50 miles round trip to your church. (Current IRS mileage reimbursement rate is 55¢ per mile.) The Salary Studies Committee of Providence Presbytery has adopted the IRS rate.
- B. Churches between 50 and 200 members should provide an honorarium of not less than \$75 for one service and \$100 if there are two services. Same recommendation concerning mileage.
- C. Churches between 200 and 500 members should provide an honorarium of not less than \$100 for one service and \$125 if there are two services. Same recommendation concerning mileage.
- D. Churches over 500 members should provide an honorarium of not less than \$125 for one service and \$150 if there are two services. Same recommendation concerning mileage.

II. To Whom Do We Offer Honoraria?

The general guideline suggested by Providence Presbytery is that an honorarium be provided to any minister filling your pulpit on any occasion when your minister is not preaching and/or for the convenience of the church or minister. An exception is when a minister (or lay speaker) is representing an institution, program, or agency of the church whose cause is being presented or promoted and whose presence has been requested by the agency, institution, or cause.

Example: If your minister is on vacation and you invite Dr. John Griffith, President of Presbyterian College, or a member of the Presbytery staff to fill the pulpit, an honorarium is expected. If the college requests the opportunity for Dr. Griffith to be heard by your congregation in behalf of the college, no honorarium would be expected.

If you have further questions concerning these honoraria, please call the Presbytery office at 803-328-6269 or 800-922-1609.