

Approved by Central Florida Presbytery on June 7, 2011

**Fidelity and Chastity Motion for Central Florida Presbytery.
Approved by Session, May 17, 2011**

The Session of Woodbury Presbyterian Church believes that the specific language included in G6.0106b of the 2009- June 2011 edition of the *Book of Order* was helpful in evaluating leaders in the church and needs to be included in our evaluation of ministers of the word and sacrament in this Presbytery. Therefore, the Session of Woodbury Presbyterian Church requests that Central Florida Presbytery adopt the following statement and use it in the evaluation of all candidates for ordination and/or installation to the office of minister of the word and sacrament:

“We believe that when the newly revised *Book of Order* states in G6.0106b (or G-2.0104b in the New Form of Government if that passes) that ‘standards for ordained service reflect the church’s desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life’ that this means among other things that officers in the church are required to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman (W4.9001), or chastity in singleness. Persons refusing to live according to these requirements shall not be received, ordained or installed as ministers of the word and sacrament in Central Florida Presbytery.”

Rationale:

This statement would make clear the understanding of Central Florida Presbytery that the “desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life” includes faithfulness in sexual practice and would give specific guidance to the Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry as they examine candidates for ordination and/or installation regarding their ‘suitability’ for office.