

Book: Poplar Springs Baptist Church Policy Manual  
Section 2000 General Church Policies  
Title Pastor Emeritus  
Number 2600  
Authority Church Bylaws Article V, Section 1  
Adopted May 19, 2024

### 1 Timothy 5:17

“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.”

#### Section 1 Purpose

- A. The title of Pastor Emeritus is a very special honor given in appreciation of exceptional service rendered and a sign of the congregation’s high regard.
- B. Pastor Emeritus is an honorary title that is given to a retired Pastor, at the church’s discretion, to honor service to the church and the Kingdom of God.
- C. The purpose is to honor a Senior Pastor’s faithful service, effective ministry, and to recognize a continued calling to serve God through continued membership at Poplar Springs Baptist Church.

#### Section 2 Eligibility

- A. The honor may be given to a retired Senior Pastor who has ended paid pastoral careers with their tenure at Poplar Springs Baptist Church.
- B. The retired Senior Pastor continues to worship and participate in the life of Poplar Springs Baptist Church after retirement.

- C. The honor is not automatic and should not be considered routine. It is bestowed by the church in gratitude for an extraordinary ministry career.
- D. A pastoral tenure of ten years is the normal consideration for Pastor Emeritus status.
- E. The church shall ordinarily wait a minimum of two years after retirement to confer the honor of Pastor Emeritus. Exceptions to this time limit may be made when necessary, such as ill health of the retiring pastor.
- F. The conferring of the title of Pastor Emeritus may be considered following a recommendation of the Deacon Body to the church congregation.
- G. The church, by majority vote in business conference, may approve the recommendation from the Deacons to confer the title of Pastor Emeritus.
- H. Poplar Springs Baptist Church may have more than one Pastor Emeritus.

### Section 3            Duties and Compensation

- A. Pastor Emeritus is an honorary title that has no official duties or pastoral authority.
- B. The Pastor Emeritus is not considered a regular ministry staff position.
- C. The honorary title of Pastor Emeritus has no monetary compensation except as noted below.
- D. The Pastor Emeritus shall be compensated at the normal rate of a pulpit supply pastor on any occasion that Pastor Emeritus fills the pulpit in the absence of the current Senior Pastor.