

Add new subparagraph after ¶ 338.2 a) as follows and renumber the remaining:

¶ 338.2 *Less Than Full-Time Service*—

a) Appointment to less than full-time service is not a guarantee, but may be made by the bishop under the following circumstances:

- (1) Bi-vocational/tentmaking ministry - Less than full-time service may be granted – but is not guaranteed – when the elder, provisional elder, or associate member has declared in writing a plan for service to the local church and employment beyond the local church. The clergy member shall present that written declaration to the bishop and chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry prior to the annual conference session at which the appointment is made.

Rationale:

In the changing culture and landscape, we need to be sensitive to the needs of churches and community as well as the abilities or lack thereof for churches to support full-time clergy with benefits. Bi-vocational/tentmaking options need to be available for ordained elders, deacons, provisional elders, and associate members. (¶633.5.e)