

## **Interim Pastor Training - FAQs**

### **Q: Who should we contact if our church needs an interim pastor?**

A: Your first contact should be your local association leadership. Secondly, you can email your request and contact information to [hopeforchurches@scbaptist.org](mailto:hopeforchurches@scbaptist.org). (Please provide the name of the church, location, and your best contact information.)

### **Q: What training should I take if I'm retiring as a pastor and would like to continue in ministry as an interim pastor?**

A: We recommend anyone desiring to serve as an interim pastor in SC complete the Interim Shepherd training.

### **Q: What options do I have to become certified as a Transitional Pastor in SC?**

A: The Transitional Pastor training has been beneficial to our churches for many years, but based on the current needs of our SCBaptist churches, we feel it is best to equip practitioners to help strengthen the mission and vitality of our churches through the Renewal Practitioner Lab in collaboration with a local association.

### **Q: How is Interim Shepherd training different than Transitional Pastor training?**

A: Interim Shepherd training equips the interim pastor to shepherd a congregation in a few strategic areas of ministry without the weight of also having to guide a church through a consultation process. Should a congregation be in a declining season of mission and need a specialized consultation, the interim and congregation can partner with trained practitioners in their local association or state convention. Together, the interim shepherd and the renewal practitioner can guide a church toward a hopeful future implementing a renewed mission in their community.

### **Q: Can I complete both Interim Shepherd and Renewal Practitioner Lab?**

A: Absolutely! The need is tremendous for interim pastors seeking to shepherd churches toward hopeful futures through specialized training. We do encourage all interim pastors to collaborate with their local associational leadership before leading a congregation through any intentional process.

### **Q: Who would be an ideal candidate for someone attending the Renewal Practitioner Lab?**

A: This training is best suited for someone 1) desiring a better understanding of the process and resources available for declining churches; 2) seeking to serve on an associational revitalization team with the expectation of consulting with a congregation; 3) seeking to serve in a capacity similar to a Transitional Pastor (both pastor and consultant) as they serve a congregation.