

REPORT OF THE PARISH DISCERNMENT GROUP TO THE VESTRY

To: The Rector and Vestry of _____ Date _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Discernment Group Chairperson: _____

*[This report consists of concise yet detailed answers to the following questions.
The Discernment Group is encouraged to cite specific examples to illustrate their points.]*

1. What is this person's understanding of the Ministry to which he/she is aspiring?
 - a. How does the applicant view the Ministry of the whole Body of Christ?
 - b. How does the applicant differentiate between the ministries of lay persons and ordained persons?
 - c. How does the applicant understand the ordained minister's central task in pastoral care? (Solving others' problems? Giving answers? Helping one come to a resolution on one's problems?)

2. How do you see this person growing in the Christian faith?
 - a. How well does the applicant understand the basics of the Christian faith? (BCP pp. 845-862)
 - b. Does the applicant give evidence of having a personal relationship with God?
 - c. How does the applicant's spirituality make itself manifest to you?
 - d. Is the applicant still questioning, searching, and probing the mysteries of the faith?

3. Describe the current ministries of this person.
 - a. Is the applicant confusing a calling to Christian service with a calling to ordination?

4. What is this person's capacity to learn?
 - a. What is his/her academic record?
 - b. How open is he/she to questioning, self-exploration, and reality testing?
 - c. What evidence is there of his/her continuing commitment to learning and intellectual growth?

5. What is the status of this person's emotional health?
 - a. How aware is he/she of his/her own feelings?
 - b. How does this person deal with family of origin issues?
 - c. Does he/she have a level of maturity and the ability to adapt which is commensurate with his/her age level?
 - d. How does he/she function in interpersonal relationships?

6. Describe this person's capacity for leadership.
- a. Is he/she aware of and at ease with a variety of leadership styles and able to use them as the situation indicates?
 - b. How comfortable is he/she with being a person in whom authority rests?
 - c. How has his/her leadership already been evidenced in prior or current lay ministries in school, work, or church settings?

7. In what ways can you envision this person as a deacon or priest? / as **your** deacon or priest?

Recommendation:

- Recommend favorably for Postulancy at this time.
- Recommend for Postulancy at this time, with the following reservations or provisions:

 Encouraged to continue in the process with these suggestions, but not recommended for Postulancy at this time:

 Not recommended for Postulancy

Comments: