

Ministerial Leadership Reference Form

Candidate: _____

Name of Person Providing Reference: _____

Relationship to the Candidate: _____

The candidate for ministry has applied for credentials to the Missionary Church. Part of the credentialing process is a reference form that we ask to be complete on the candidate's behalf. We are asking for your candid evaluation and comments regarding the candidate's gifts, performance, and character. We believe that a reference from you will help us understand the candidate better.

We are inviting you to assist in the process by completing this form. If you cannot answer each question, please choose those which most significantly apply to your relationship with the candidate. All references are the property of the Missionary Church, North Central District, Inc. and will be placed in the ministerial file of the candidate.

We would kindly ask you to reply within one week to expedite the process.

1. Describe the outward behavior, personal characteristics, work habits and emotional tendencies of the candidate.

2. How do you perceive the spiritual and theological commitments of the candidate for service in a Missionary Church setting?

3. Background Check Questions: (Circle your response) To the best of your knowledge.....
 - a. Has the candidate been reprimanded or disciplined by church leaders for any form of ethical or sexual misconduct. Yes No
 - b. Has the candidate ever been denied employment for ethical reasons? Yes No
 - c. Has the candidate ever been terminated from employment for ethical reasons? Yes No
 - d. Is there anything in the life of the candidate, past or present that, if it came to light, would be detrimental to ministry or inconsistent with the basic tenets of the Christian faith? Yes No
 - e. Would you consider the candidate to lead an exemplary lifestyle? Yes No
 - f. Does the candidate have a good reputation in the church and in the community? Yes No

4. Can you, without reservation, recommend this candidate for ministry within the Missionary Church? Do you have any additional comments regarding this candidate's qualification for service in ministry in the Missionary Church?

For the following questions, please answer only those in the appropriate category of your relationship to the candidate?

PASTOR

1. How long have you known the candidate?

2. How would you describe the nature of the candidate's involvement in the life and service of the church?

3. If you had the necessity and means, would you hire this candidate?
 - a. If not, why not?

 - b. If so:
 - i. Over which areas of the church would you give the candidate full responsibility and authority?

 - ii. If you would limit responsibility and authority, why would you do so?

LAY OFFICIAL

1. How long have you known the candidate?

In what capacity?

2. If the candidate was interviewing at your church in order to be a pastor there, would you entrust your spiritual growth and well-being to him?

If not, why not?

If so, in what areas of personal and pastoral ministry does he give evidence of competence?

In what areas of personal and pastoral ministry would he need to develop and grow?

3. If the candidate were candidating at a friend's church, what would you tell the friend concerning him?

CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMAN

1. How long have you known the candidate?

In what capacity?

2. If you had the necessity and means, would you hire this candidate?

If not, why not?

If so, what responsibilities would you entrust to him?

What responsibilities would you not entrust to him?

3. If the candidate were candidating at a friend's church, what would you tell the friend concerning the candidate?

FRIEND

1. How long have you known the candidate?

2. What would you consider your friend's strengths to be?

3. In what areas does your friend need yet to grow and mature?

4. How would you describe your friend's dependability as a person?

Reference Signature _____ Date _____

Please return the form to:
Missionary Church North Central District
Attn: Lisa Burns
3301 Benham Avenue
Elkhart IN 46517—2247

For office use only

Date Sent: _____

Date Received: _____

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