

DBMD COMMISSIONED MINISTER INTERVIEW

Purpose: To determine the candidate's readiness for ministry and the Church's readiness to endorse his/her graces, calling, gifts, and fruitfulness for ministry; to explore competencies for ministry; to confirm theological positions and loyalty to The Wesleyan Church

Resources: DBMD Ordination/Commissioning Questionnaire; Education and the Ministry transcript; Annual Service Report

Requirements: Person must have been 40 years of age or older at the time of receiving a license as a ministerial student or demonstrate other extenuating circumstances that qualify for consideration for commissioning rather than ordination; completion of all educational requirements for commissioning (within six years from time of enrollment) and a letter certifying the same from Education and the Ministry; completion per *Discipline* 3059: 1 of two years of satisfactory service in actual ministry under district appointment as a licensed minister;

Length: One hour

Recommendation: Recommendation to District Conference for election to Commissioned minister's orders or denial of recommendation and the offering of appropriate counsel to the applicant regarding future options

Follow-up Needed: Election by the District Conference to commissioned minister's status; participation in a public service of commissioning; issuance of commission certificate signed by the General Superintendent, District Superintendent and District Secretary

Questions:

1. Tell us about your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. How did you come to know Christ? How have you grown in Christ since you were converted? How do you maintain an intimate relationship with the Lord? What areas of discipleship and obedience continue to need development in your life?
2. Review your call to full-time Christian ministry for us. How did you experience this call? How has it been confirmed in your own life and by others? What motivates you to want to be a Christian minister?
3. Tell us about someone you have led to Christ recently. What is your approach to personal evangelism and discipling new believers?
4. Describe your family life for us. How long have you been married? Is this your first marriage (if not, please tell us about your first marriage and how it ended)? What do you do to maintain a strong marriage relationship? What is your relationship with your children like? What aspects of your family relationships currently need special attention or improvement?
5. The basic theological beliefs of The Wesleyan Church are stated in our Articles of Religion (paragraphs 210-250 in *The Discipline*). As you know, these deal with the nature of God, the authority of the Scriptures, the sanctity of marriage, human free will and depravity, the atonement, justification, sanctification, the gifts of the Spirit, the nature of the Church, the sacraments, and human destiny. Are you committed to all of the Articles of Religion of The Wesleyan Church? What is your personal theology as it relates to the place of the Scriptures in personal and corporate life? the believer's security in Christ? entire sanctification? spiritual gifts?
6. What personal prejudices have you had to confront in yourself that would make it difficult for you to serve in a multi-cultural, multi-racial setting?

7. Do you adhere personally to the membership commitments of The Wesleyan Church (see *Discipline* 260)? Are there any membership commitments with which you personally do not agree, but that you will respect and support as the positions of The Wesleyan Church?
8. Discuss your position regarding submission to the polity (governing practices) of The Wesleyan Church. Would you classify yourself as loyal to your district and denomination? Why or why not? What is your personal philosophy about paying district budget and United Stewardship Fund obligations when finances are tight in the local church? How do you show respect for the authority of spiritual leaders who are over you in the Lord?
9. What do you think your personal financial practices say to others about your commitment to Christ? Tell us about your personal giving habits. What is your current level of indebtedness? Are you current in all your personal financial obligations?
10. Questions for Spouses--
 - A. Do you believe your spouse is truly called to specialized ministry in the Church? Why or why not?
 - B. What qualities does your spouse have that make you confident he/she will be effective in ministry?
 - C. What role do you think you will play in your spouse's ministry? How do you feel about fulfilling this role?
11. Is it your intent to devote your total life to the Christian ministry?
12. What goals do you have for continuing professional development as a minister?
13. If you were sitting on this board, would you recommend yourself for commissioning? Why or why not?
14. What does commissioning mean to you and why do you want to be commissioned?
15. Are there any questions you were afraid might be asked today that were not?
16. Mandatory Legal Questions--
 - A. Have you ever been accused or found guilty of any criminal activity?
 - B. Have you ever participated in any sexual misconduct which would include child sexual abuse (pedophilia), the sexual abuse of adolescent minors, or homosexuality?
 - C. Are there any pending legal actions that might incriminate you in the future?
 - D. Are you a U.S. citizen? If not, what is your current visa or immigration status? Have you given our office a photocopy of your Social Security card, resident visa, green card or other INS documentation?

District Board of Ministerial Development INTERVIEW QUESTIONS