

## DBMD TRANSFERRING MINISTER INTERVIEW

**Purpose:** To become acquainted with the prospective transferring minister; to determine the candidate's compatibility with the doctrines, membership commitments and polity of The Wesleyan Church; to explore the individual's spiritual, educational, and experiential background

**Requirements:** Letter of standing or photocopies of ministerial credentials from previous affiliation and photocopies of transcripts or other records of ministerial training; copies of the above forwarded to Education and the Ministry; letter from area General Superintendent approving applicant's reception as a minister in process of transfer

**Length:** 45 minutes

**Recommendation:** Recommendation to District Conference for appointment of applicant as an ordained minister in the process of transfer, commissioned minister in the process of transfer, or licensed minister in the process of transfer; or denial of recommendation and the offering of appropriate counsel to the applicant regarding future options

**Follow-up Needed:** Appointment by the District Conference to appropriate category as an ordained/commissioned/licensed minister in the process of transfer; minister must join a local Wesleyan church within the district; satisfactory service in the appointed category for at least one year (see *Disc.* 3104); subsequent recommendation of DBMD in consultation with the General Superintendent for reception of the individual as a ministerial member of the district; issuance of certificate signed by the General Superintendent, District Superintendent and District Secretary validating the minister's ordination or commission (see *Disc.* 6320) or issuance of a district minister's license (see *Disc.* 6260)

### **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*). 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. In what areas might you have difficulty with Wesleyan practices? How will you help local churches you serve fulfill their district budget and United Stewardship Fund obligations? 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. How did you come to know Christ as your personal Savior and Lord?

B. What qualities does your spouse possess that make you confident he/she will be effective as a minister in The Wesleyan Church?

C. What role do you play in your spouse's ministry? How do you feel about fulfilling this role?

11. 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?