

CANDIDATE FORM

Candidate Information

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) yes ____ no ____

Congregation Name/City: _____

Pastor Name: _____

Request Interview with Commission on Ministry

I would like to connect regarding:

_____ Inquiry/Discernment (would like to discuss options with CCL)

_____ Ordained Ministry (please complete corresponding section on pg 2)

- Seminary Track
- Apprentice Track

_____ Commissioned Ministry (please complete corresponding section on pg 2)

_____ Recognition of Ordained Standing -currently ordained in another denomination
(please complete corresponding section on pg 2)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pastor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Ordained Ministry

College: _____

Degree/Date Completed: _____

Seminary: _____

Degree/Date Completed: _____

Expected Completion: _____

Work Experience: _____

Additional Information: _____

Commissioned Ministry

College: _____

Degree/Date Completed: _____

Seminary or Certificate: _____

Degree/Date Completed: _____

Expected Completion: _____

Work Experience: _____

Additional Information: _____

Recognition of Ordained Standing

Seminary: _____

Degree/Date Completed: _____

Ordained Denomination/Date: _____

Current Standing Denomination

& Judiciary: _____

Additional Information: _____

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST (DoC)

DISCOVERY

Prior to scheduling your interview with the Center on Church Leadership (CCL), please complete the following prerequisites and submit your writings to the Regional Office.

PART 1 - INDEPENDENT EXPLORATION (800-1200 words)

- Visit various DoC churches. Contact the Region for suggestions to ensure a diverse sampling.
- Read information put out by the General church at disciples.org on Disciples identity.
- Explore the General and Regional DoC websites.
- Visit one-to-one with two selected DoC ministers.
- In light of your experience, write a report of these explorations. Use the following questions to guide your thoughts:
 - What similarities and differences did you observe in the worship services? What appealed or spoke to you? What seemed distracting or uncomfortable?
 - What is your impression of the information on Disciples identity at disciples.org? For whom would they be most helpful and how would you use them?
 - What questions did you have for the ministers? Did you have an “ah ha” moment during or following your visit? If so, what was it? What questions did the ministers raise in your mind?
 - What was your impression of the websites? What did you find especially helpful? How would you make use of these resources?
 - How do you understand the relationship between the congregational, regional, and national (general) manifestations in the Disciples understanding of “church?”

PART 2 – PERSONAL REFLECTIONS (1200-1500 words)

Use the following questions to guide your thoughts:

- Reflect on your understanding of the Lord's Supper.
 - How has your understanding and experience of the Lord's Supper evolved over time?
 - Why celebrate the Lord's Supper every week?
 - How would you respond to the person who says having communion weekly diminishes its meaning and makes it feel commonplace?
 - Reflect on your spiritual experience as you prepare to give of your inner self to those who come forward to receive Holy Communion. Is it your desire to give eye to eye contact in an attempt to offer your spirit and love to those who are served by you? Why or why not?
- Reflect on your understanding of baptism.
 - What is your understanding of baptism and the importance of being baptized?
 - How do you understand the role of "believers' baptism and receiving people who have a different baptismal expression, i.e. baptism as an infant and confirmation when older?
 - How would you respond to the person who wants to be re-baptized?
 - What is the relationship between the Lord's Supper and baptism?
- Reflect on your understanding of Christian unity.
 - What do you see as the goal of Christian unity, and how would you further that goal as part of your ministry if commissioned or ordained in the DISCIPLES OF CHRIST?
 - Is the phrase "Unity is our polar star" still credible for Disciples?
- Understanding of Disciples Ministry
 - In your view, what does it mean to be a "Biblical church?"
 - What is the most important thing that Disciples of Christ have to offer the world?
 - The Preamble of the Disciple Design states: "We rejoice in God's covenant of love, which binds us to God and one another". How do you understand this covenant relationship?
- Reflect on "Why I want to be a DOC."
 - What have you learned about the Disciples of Christ and its members that attracts you to the denomination? What has most clearly connected with your ministry and call?
 - Were/are there places of disconnection or questioning and what were/are they?
- What goals and aspirations do you hope to attain as a pastor and supporter of the DOC?