



Mennonite Church
USA

Mennonite Church
Canada

Candidate Questionnaire for Interview

Credentialing Packet

CANDIDATE FOR ORDINATION:

Instructions: This guide will help you to prepare for your credentialing interview and will also help the interviewing committee to prepare. You are expected to complete this questionnaire in legible form and submit it to your regional church/area conference at least two weeks before the interview date. Expect to take at least the equivalent of a full day of work to complete this, though it is recommended that you work at it in shorter segments over a longer period of time. Copies of your material will be distributed to each member of the interviewing committee before the meeting. Your Ministerial Leadership Information form (MLI) will serve as a basis to help determine how you have grown in ministry. You may wish to review it as you reflect on some of the items below.

1. You will be asked about your **relationship with God**. Prepare for this by writing:
 - a statement of how your relationship with God has grown since you began ministry, and
 - a statement of what you plan to do over the next five years to nurture your walk with God.
2. You will be asked about your **understanding of theology**. Prepare for this by writing:
 - an example of how your theological understandings have been influenced by people you serve, and
 - a bibliography of books read during the period of licensing that have influenced your understanding of Christian faith and ministry.
3. You will be asked about your **ability to do pastoral tasks**. Prepare for this by writing:
 - a list of comments you think congregational members would make about your performance of the work of ministry, and
 - a list of the major themes on which you have preached.
4. You will be asked about your **person or self**. Prepare for this by writing:
 - a statement of what you have learned about yourself through your experience in ministry, and
 - a statement on how being a minister has changed you and how it has affected others close to you.

5. You will be asked about your **compatibility with the Mennonite Church** and your regional church/area conference. Prepare for this by writing:
- a brief description of the Mennonite ethos (i.e., how Mennonites do or should act and be). How does this compare to the ethos of the congregation you are serving or of which you are a member?
 - By now you have become familiar with Mennonite polity, both as it relates to ministry and to the overall structure and relationships within the denomination. Describe your perceptions about strengths and weaknesses in these systems.
6. You will be asked about your sense of the **office of ministry**. Prepare for this by writing:
- a statement about what it feels like to be a minister.

2018