

Candidacy Examination Procedure

Upon approval of your application for Candidacy by the CPM, you will be invited to appear on the floor of Presbytery to be examined and enrolled as a Candidate for Ministry of the Word and Sacrament. The next Presbytery meeting will be:

Date: _____

Location: _____

You will be invited up as part of the order of the day during the CPM report. The meetings sometimes run ahead of or behind schedule, so you are encouraged to be present for the whole day. Registration for Presbytery meetings begins at 8:30, and the meetings begin at 9:00 with worship.

The commissioners to the Presbytery meeting will receive, as part of their packet, copies of your responses to the first two candidacy questions (your understanding of Christian vocation and your sense of call; and your statement of personal faith).

During the examination, you will be invited by the CPM moderator to respond to **two questions**. The first will be to share with the Presbytery about your Christian faith and your sense of call. The second will invite you to elaborate on something you have written in the first two responses. Following the questions from the CPM representative, the moderator of the Presbytery will invite any questions from the floor. These questions will be restricted to matters of your Christian faith, your forms of Christian service undertaken, and your motives for seeking the ministry.

If the Presbytery approves your examination, the moderator will ask you to respond affirmatively to the following questions:

1. Do you believe yourself to be called by God to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament?
2. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for the ministry?
3. Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?
4. Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a Candidate for the ministry of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?

If you answer these questions affirmatively, a representative from your home congregation will be invited to deliver a brief charge to you, and the moderator will then close the proceedings with prayer.

If you have any questions, or find yourself unable to attend the Presbytery meeting for any reason, please be in touch with the CPM Moderator as soon as possible.