

Kansas West Conference Board of Ordained Ministry
EXAMINATION GUIDELINES
Full Membership and Elder's Orders

Focus: *"Effectiveness in Ministry" -- Documenting fitness for effective ministry.*

1. PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS -- "Gifts"

- A. Do reports from PPRC, District Superintendent, and Clergy Mentor demonstrate a growing professional level of ministerial skills?
- B. What are areas of strength? What areas need to be strengthened?
- C. Are ideas and feelings clearly articulated? Is there evidence of a capacity to hear and respond to ideas and feelings expressed by others?

2. THEOLOGICAL POSITION -- "Grace"

- A. Can you articulate a faith that is biblically grounded and is consistent with Christian experience and reason? Is this position open to change and growth?
- B. What effect has the practice of ministry had on your understanding of humanity and the need for divine grace?
- C. Are you theologically comfortable with your parishioners? Your colleagues in ministry? What effect do you perceive your theology having on your parishioners? What do you now understand about the following in relationship to your theology?
 - 1) An inclusive church and ministry;
 - 3) The Lordship of Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit;
 - 4) The ministry of all Christians; and,
 - 5) The Doctrinal Guidelines (pages 76-86 in the *2004 Book of Discipline*).

3. VOCATIONAL IDENTITY

- A. Why are you seeking elder's orders? What difference will this make for you in your ministry?
- B. Why are you seeking full membership? What difference will this make for you in your ministry?
- C. How will you live out your calling as an elder in relationship to the following areas of ministry?
 - 1) Service;
 - 2) Word;
 - 3) Sacrament;
 - 4) Order.
- D. How does your ministry as an elder contribute to the primary mission of the church – to make disciples of Jesus Christ?
- E. In what ways is your pastoral identity developing? (Note your experiences with CPE, relationships with parishioners, relationships with colleagues, etc.)
- F. How do you understand your membership in the Order of Elder?

4. LIFE STYLE

Discuss your responsibility and influence as an ordained minister in relation to the following:

- A. Responsible self-control by personal habits and financial integrity;
- B. Intentional intellectual development;
- C. Fidelity in marriage, celibacy in singleness;
- D. Social responsibility; and,
- E. Growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God.