# THE WESLEYAN CHURCH Western New York District

# DBMD NO. 5 ORDINATION APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

This application questionnaire assumes the candidate has completed the Course of Study, has had some years of experience, and is nearly ready for ordination or commissioning. The Personal Data Inventory Questionnaire should have been completed earlier. The answers on this questionnaire will enable the district leaders to judge the readiness of the candidate for ordination. It should be completed carefully and fully.

**Name**       **Date**

# Preliminary Data

# Please give an update on your marital and family record.

# Does your spouse/fiancé testify to conversion?

# Explain any reservation your spouse/fiancé may have about being married to an ordained minister in the church.

# Explain any problem your spouse/fiancé may have experienced "fitting in" as a minister's companion.

# Do you or your spouse/fiancé have any obligations that might interfere with your primary ministry?       If so, explain.

# Do you consistently meet all financial commitments so that you do not compromise your ministry or standing with your creditors?

# Are you now, or have you ever been, involved in a court case where charges have been brought against you?       If so, explain.

# Health Information

# Comment on your present state of health.

# Have you ever had a nervous breakdown or an emotionally traumatizing experience?       If so, please explain:

# State any health factors in your family which might have a bearing on your ministry.

# Ministerial Qualification

# What devotional patterns have you built into your life?

# Are you maintaining a life of personal purity and moral integrity?

# What is your understanding of the experience of entire sanctification?       Have you experienced, or are you diligently seeking this grace?

# What terms would you use to describe your present relationship with God?

# Of what Wesleyan church are you now a member?       Is your spouse/fiancé a member of a Wesleyan Church?

# When were you first issued a district license in The Wesleyan Church?       By what district?

# How long have you carried a district license continuously?

# Please comment on the urgency of your call to the ministry. Include in your answer your understanding of whether a call is for a lifetime.       Are you determined to make the ministry your life's work?       Do you plan to give full time to the ministry?

# What ministerial experiences have you had? Give places and dates for each.

# What do you feel will be the main focus of your ministry?

# List, in order of importance, what you consider the most vital qualities necessary for making a person a good minister.

*1.*

*2.*

*3.*

*4.*

*5.*

# How would you define what it means to be "successful" in ministry?

| Of the pastoral functions listed below, indicate your level of competency (on a scale of 0-6 with 6 being most prepared). | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FUNCTION** | **Level of Competency (0-6)** | **Comment** |
| Method of personal evangelism |  |  |
| Method of discipling |  |  |
| Membership training |  |  |
| Premarital counseling |  |  |
| Weddings |  |  |
| Marriage counseling |  |  |
| Pre-funeral pastoral care |  |  |
| Conducting Funeral |  |  |
| Baptismal service |  |  |
| Administering Lord's Supper |  |  |
| Planning worship service |  |  |
| Conducting worship service |  |  |
| Preaching |  |  |
| Visitation—hospital |  |  |
| Visitation--shut-in/elderly |  |  |
| Visitation--prospects |  |  |
| Planning special day observance (Christmas, Easter, etc.) |  |  |
| Preparing agenda for LBA |  |  |
| Leading session of the LBA |  |  |
| Preparing reports to LBA |  |  |
| Leading session of the Local Church Conference |  |  |
| Maintaining membership lists, etc. |  |  |
| Property and legal matters |  |  |
| Preparing annual church budget |  |  |
| Managing church finances |  |  |
| Preparing reports to district conference (ASR, stats) |  |  |
| Community Ministerial Association |  |  |
| Church Social Media |  |  |
| Church Website |  |  |

# Lifelong personal growth and self-improvement are essential to effective ministry. What do you plan to do to keep current in the areas of intellectual stimulation, pastoral care and counseling, church administration, and theological understanding?

# Have you seen individuals converted and incorporated into the church as a result of your ministry? Please be specific.

# Have individuals been encouraged to grow spiritually because of your involvement in their lives? Explain.

# What do you believe will be the strongest area of your ministry?       The weakest?

# What do you conceive to be the purpose or meaning of ordination, and why do you desire to be ordained?

# What do you believe will be the effect of the strain of living constantly in the public eye on your family?       Please comment.

# Churchmanship

# Do you, or have you had, any reservations concerning your loyalty to The Wesleyan Church?       Explain.

# Will you be conscientious in your promotion of the district and general interests of the Church?

# Can you give full support to the institutions of The Wesleyan Church?       If not, explain.

# Read again the Guides and Helps to Holy Living of The Wesleyan Church (*Discipline* paragraphs 260-268). Can you fully support, practice and teach the principles of living outlined? If you have hesitancy or questions, please explain.

| **Principles of Living** | **Yes/No** | **If no, please explain.** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Honor The Lord's Day |  |  |
| Abstain from Spiritism |  |  |
| Exercise Faithful Stewardship |  |  |
| Demonstrate a positive social witness by: | | |
| 1. Abstaining from all gambling |  |  |
| 1. Abstaining from destructive substances (Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs, etc.) |  |  |
| 1. Refraining from membership in secret societies |  |  |
| Follow the Scripture’s Teaching on Marriage and Divorce |  |  |
| Preserve the Sanctity of the Home |  |  |
| Work to Advance God’s Kingdom |  |  |
| Grow in Knowledge, Love and Grace |  |  |
| Preserve the Integrity of the Church with Reference to speaking in Tongues |  |  |
| Do Good to all People |  |  |
| Respect the Right of All People |  |  |
| Be Honest, Just, and Faithful |  |  |

# What is your attitude toward the district budget assessments and the United Stewardship Fund assessments of the General Church?

# How will you work for 100% payment of these assessments in the churches you pastor?

# To what extent do you or will you promote prayer support and giving to the missionary causes of The Wesleyan Church?

# How long have you been faithful in the storehouse tithing of your personal income? (See *Discipline* 465)

# Describe what you believe the relationship between the local pastor and the district superintendent should be?

# Please explain any challenges you have had in maintaining a healthy relationship with the churches you have pastored?

# Are you current in your reporting to the district and its officials? (monthly stats, Annual Service Report)?

# In regard to your schedule--

* 1. Are there demands on your time that compete with the Christian ministry?
  2. What would you do if you were faced with conflicts with your primary ministry?
  3. How many hours each week is a reasonable work load for a healthy pastor?

# Comment on your understanding of the biblical teaching on divorce as well as on divorce and remarriage.

# Indicate the level to which you are likely to become actively involved in these social issues in your ministry. (Scale of 0-6 with 6 being most likely)

| **ISSUE** | **0-6** | **Comment (optional)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Abortion |  |  |
| Aging and the elderly |  |  |
| Concern for the poor |  |  |
| Creation Care |  |  |
| Homosexuality |  |  |
| Pornography |  |  |
| Racial equality |  |  |
| Sexism |  |  |
| Sexual harassment |  |  |
| Substance Abuse |  |  |
| Women’s rights |  |  |
| World hunger |  |  |

# Explain your views on those issues about which you feel very strongly and explain how they may affect your ministry.

# Doctrine

# Can you practice and advocate total abstinence as The Wesleyan Church’s response to abuse of such substances as alcohol, tobacco and drugs used for purposes other than proper medical treatment?

# Are you persuaded that the practice of homosexuality is contrary to Scriptural teaching and that the church should boldly teach that a marriage between a man and a woman should be the only context for sexual activity?

# Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures are the fully inspired and inerrant written Word of God, and that they contain sufficiently all doctrine required for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?       Comment on your understanding of this commitment.

# What is your understanding of the Holy Trinity?       How is this doctrine relevant to the church?

# What do you believe about the nature and deity of Jesus?

# Comment on the importance of Christ's resurrection to the gospel.

# What is your understanding of humankind--the origin, original nature and present nature of persons apart from Christ?

# What is your understanding of the "gift of tongues?" Is it the evidence of being filled with the Spirit?

# State what you believe to be the scriptural significance of baptism, mode(s) of baptism and who is eligible.

# What is the meaning and purpose of the Lord's Supper? Include in your answer who may administer and who may participate.

# What is your understanding of the Second Coming of Christ?

# What do you understand to be the destiny of the Christian, of the unbeliever, or of the person who has never heard the gospel?

# The Wesleyan Church believes that God calls both men and women into ordained/commissioned ministry.       Will you continue to support this position? If not please explain.

**General Comments (optional):**

**Please read and sign the following statement:**

The information provided on this form is confidential.  It is only for use by the Wesleyan District Board of Ministerial Development and Wesleyan Church officials and will not be released or provided to any other parties

I hereby freely give permission for the use of this information by the district and general officials of The Wesleyan Church and waive my right to examine any confidential information about me provided by other persons. Further, I understand that ordination/commissioning by The Wesleyan Church is a privilege granted me, not a right that I claim. I hereby acknowledge the authority of the Church in granting ordination/commissioning to those who, after thorough examination, are believed to have the gifts, fruit and call of God. Also, I understand that though I may complete all of the academic requirements for ordination/commissioning, it does not guarantee my ordination/commissioning.

**Signature (Sign or Type Name)**

**Date**