



THE WESLEYAN CHURCH

_____ District

DBMD NO. 5

ORDINATION/COMMISSIONING 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/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/commissioning. It should be completed carefully and fully.

Preliminary Data

Date Form was completed _____

Name _____ Date of birth _____ Age _____

Address _____

1. Please give an update on your marital and family record.
2. Does your spouse/fiancé testify to conversion? _____ Sanctification? _____
3. Explain any reservation your spouse/fiancé may have about being married to an ordained minister in the church.
4. Explain any problem your spouse/fiancé may have experienced "fitting in" as a minister's companion.
5. Do you or your spouse/fiancé have any obligations that might interfere with your primary ministry? _____ If so, explain.
6. Do you consistently meet all financial commitments so that you do not compromise your ministry or standing with your creditors? _____
7. 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

8. Comment on your present state of health. Include any major illnesses since filing the *Personal Data Inventory Questionnaire*.
9. Have you ever had a nervous breakdown or an emotionally traumatizing experience? _____ If so, please explain.
10. State any health factors in your family which might have a bearing on your ministry.

Ministerial Qualification

11. What devotional patterns have you built into your life?
12. Are you maintaining a life of personal purity and moral integrity? _____
13. What is your understanding of the experience of entire sanctification?

Have you experienced, or are you diligently seeking this grace? _____

14. What terms would you use to describe your present relationship with God?
15. Of what Wesleyan church are you now a member? _____
Of what Wesleyan church is your spouse a member? _____
16. When were you first issued a district license in The Wesleyan Church? _____
17. By what district? _____
How long have you carried a district license continuously? _____

18. This is the most important step in your quest for ordination/commissioning. Please comment again on the urgency of your call to the ministry. Include in your answer your understanding of whether a call is for a lifetime, or whether it is acceptable to go into secular employment and become an ordained minister without appointment. Most districts have long lists of ministers without appointment who have been in secular work for years and may never plan to go back into the ministry. Do you envision this happening to you? _____ Are you determined to make the ministry your life's work? _____ Do you plan to give full time to the ministry? _____
19. What ministerial experiences have you had? Pastor _____ Evangelist _____ Other: _____
Give places and dates for each.
20. What do you feel will be the main focus of your ministry?
21. 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.
22. How would you define what it means to be "successful" in ministry?
23. Check the pastoral functions in which you have had some practical experience and then indicate the level of preparedness or competency you feel in each area.

	Check	Prepared			Lack Competence		
Basic pattern, sermon preparation	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--hospital	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--shut-in	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--elderly	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--prospects	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--community canvass	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--business, professional	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Visitation--evangelism	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Method of personal evangelism	()	6	5	4	3	2	1

Method of discipling	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Membership training	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Membership reception	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Membership transfer	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Premarital counseling	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Wedding(s)	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Marital counseling	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Pre-funeral pastoral care	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Baptismal service	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Administering Lord's Supper	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Planning worship service	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing bulletin	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Conducting worship service	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preaching	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Planning midweek service	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Planning special day observance(Christmas, Easter, etc.)	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Planning revival	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Conducting revival	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Planning missionary convention	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing newspaper article	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing newspaper ad	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing agenda for LBA	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Session of the LBA	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Session of the LCC	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sunday school organization	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sunday school supervision	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Relation to auxiliaries (WW, etc.)	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Office management	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Maintaining membership lists, etc.	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Property and legal matters	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing annual church budget	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Managing church finances	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing reports to LBA	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing reports to DS	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Preparing reports to district conf.	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
District responsibilities	()	6	5	4	3	2	1
Ministerial association	()	6	5	4	3	2	1

24. 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?

25. Have you seen individuals converted and incorporated into the church as a result of your ministry? Please be specific.
26. Have individuals been encouraged to grow spiritually because of your involvement in their lives? Explain.
27. What do you believe will be the strongest area of your ministry? The weakest?
28. What do you conceive to be the purpose or meaning of ordination, and why do you desire to be ordained?
29. What do you believe will be the effect of the strain of living constantly in the public eye on your family? Please comment.

Churchmanship

30. Do you, or have you had, any reservations concerning your loyalty to The Wesleyan Church? Explain.
31. Will you be conscientious in your promotion of the district and general interests of the Church? _____
32. Can you give full support to the institutions of The Wesleyan Church? _____ If not, explain.

33. Read again the Membership Commitments 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.

	Yes	No	Explain
(1)Honor The Lord's Day	_____	_____	_____
(2)Abstain from Spiritism	_____	_____	_____
(3)Exercise Faithful Stewardship	_____	_____	_____
(4)Demonstrate a Positive Social Witness by			
A. Abstaining from all gambling	_____	_____	_____
B. Abstaining from destructive substances (Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs, etc)	_____	_____	_____
C. Refraining from membership in secret societies	_____	_____	_____
(5)Follow the Scripture's Teaching on Marriage and Divorce	_____	_____	_____
(6)Preserve the Sanctity of the Home	_____	_____	_____
(7)Work to Advance God's Kingdom	_____	_____	_____
(8)Grow in Knowledge, Love and Grace	_____	_____	_____
(9)Preserve the Integrity of the Church with Reference to Speaking in Tongues	_____	_____	_____
(10)Do Good to all People	_____	_____	_____
(11)Respect the Right of All People	_____	_____	_____
(12)Be Honest, Just, and Faithful	_____	_____	_____

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

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

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

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

38. What should be the relationship between the local pastor and his district superintendent?

39. Are the records of your church membership and constituency current? _____

40. Please explain any special difficulties you have had in maintaining a good relationship with the churches you have pastored?

41. Are you current in your reporting to the district and its officials? _____

42. If you were not clear as to the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit to a specific assignment, would you accept the direction and appointment of the district as the will of God and enter joyfully upon the assigned appointment? _____

43. Are you willing, if needed, to take a small church and supplement your income by means of other employment? _____

44. If you find it necessary to take other employment, will you work toward the goal of becoming full time in the ministry? _____

45. In regard to your schedule--
 - a. Are there demands on your time that conflict with the Christian ministry? _____
 - b. What would you do if you were faced with conflicts with your primary ministry? _____
 - c. How many hours each week is a reasonable work load for a consecrated pastor? _____

- d. How many hours each week should you spend with your spouse and family?

46. Comment on your understanding of the biblical teaching on divorce as well as on divorce and remarriage.
47. Indicate the social issue on which you have strong views and in which you might become actively involved in your ministry.
- | | Strong | | | | Weak | |
|---|--------|---|---|---|------|---|
| a. Concern for the poor | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| b. World hunger | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| c. Racial equality | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| d. Women's rights | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| e. Pornography | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| f.. Homosexuality | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| g. Abortion | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| h. Aging and the elderly | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| i. Euthanasia | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| j. Substance abuse
(alcohol, drugs, etc) | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
48. Explain your views on those issues about which you feel very strongly and explain how they may affect your ministry.

Membership Commitments

49. Can you practice and proclaim total abstinence as the appropriate response to abuse of such substances as alcohol, tobacco and drugs used for purposes other than proper medical treatment? _____
50. What basis do you give for abstaining from membership in secret societies and lodges which are oath bound?
51. Would you knowingly take into membership individuals who do not live up to the lifestyle practices outlined in the Membership Commitments? _____ If so, explain.

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52. 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?
53. How should Christians use their leisure time?
54. 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.
55. What is your understanding of the Holy Trinity?
56. What do you believe about the nature and deity of Jesus?
57. Comment on the importance of Christ's resurrection to the gospel.
58. What is your understanding of humankind--the origin, original nature and present nature of persons apart from Christ?
59. Briefly state what you understand by the terms:
- a. Atonement
 - b. Justification

- c. Regeneration
60. What is your position on the following subjects:
- a. Free will
 - b. The security of the Christian
 - c. The possibility of complete apostasy
61. What is the nature and work of the Holy Spirit?
62. What do you understand to be the "gifts of the Spirit?" For what purpose are they given? To whom? Give scriptural evidence for your answer.
63. What is your understanding of the "gift of tongues?" Is it the evidence of being filled with the Spirit?
64. State what you believe to be the scriptural significance of baptism, mode(s) of baptism and who is eligible.
65. What is the meaning and purpose of the Lord's Supper? Include in your answer who may administer and who may participate.

- 66. What is your understanding of the Second Coming of Christ?

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

- 68. 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.

Please 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.

Date _____ Signature _____

Send completed form to:
