Arkansas S/PPRC Interview Instructions
Candidacy for Ordained or Licensed Ministry

UNITED METHODISTS OF Arkansas BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

This form is used to guide the committee through the interview process toward candidacy certification. If candidate is recommended by the committee, the next step is seeking approval by the candidate's Charge Conference (See form AR104). Following Charge Conference approval and assessments and background checks, the candidate may then be eligible to be interviewed by the dCOM (District Committee on Ordained Ministry)

Name of Candidate_____ S/PPRC Interview Date_____

Charge Conference:_____ District_____

Requirements to be completed prior to S/PPRC interview

1. Prospective candidate graduated from an accredited high school or received a certificate of equivalency.
2. Prospective candidate must be a member of The United Methodist Church or a baptized participant in an authorized ministry setting for a minimum of one (1) year prior to beginning the process. ¶ 310.1a
3. Prospective candidate (a) attended BOM-sponsored Orientation to Ministry, (b) wrote a reflection paper (AR041, assignment was given at OTM. ¶310.1b) and submitted to the District Registrar and (c) asked to be assigned a candidacy mentor/group.
4. Submit **Written Candidacy Discernment Assignment (AR042),* ¶310.1b, 310.1d, 310.2a, 310.2d (See below; this may be a draft, with revisions recommended before submission to the dCOM)

**Documents to be copied and distributed to committee members.*

Written Candidacy Discernment Assignment (AR042) Questions:

***SHARE YOUR STATEMENT OF** CALL*

A. *Please share an introductory paragraph to describe yourself and your stage of life. (ex. "I am a sophomore student at Philander Smith College"," I am an empty nester and longtime member of First UMC".)*
B. *Describe your call to ministry. Please include how the church fits into the call you have discerned.*
C. *How do you currently understand your call to relate to Licensed or Ordained Ministry in the United Methodist Church (elder, deacon, or licensed local pastor)?*
D. *Describe your support system as you pursue candidacy.*

WESLEYAN QUESTIONS (¶310.d1-d3)

I. THE NATURE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

A. *What is the most formative experience as a Christian disciple?*
B. *How do you know God as forgiving and pardoning?*
C. *How do you believe that others know that the love of Christ abides in you? Share some examples of how you discipline yourself to be "holy in all manner of conversation?"*

II. GIFTS AND GRACE FOR MINISTRY

A. *What are the gifts and grace for ministry that the Holy Spirit has given you to fulfill his work and mission? Share some examples of times when you felt your gifts for ministry were used by God.*
B. *Please share how you believe that your theology and understanding of Christ's saving grace are in alignment with historic United Methodist teachings.*

III. FRUITFULNESS IN MINISTRY

A. *How have you made and nurtured disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? Please share some recent examples of your fruitfulness in ministry as a layperson (ex: organizing a mission trip, leading a Bible Study or small group, sharing your faith, etc.)*
B. *What have you learned about yourself and God through your service?*

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- **We have read your story of calling in your written assignment. Please share with us about your recent work with a mentor, your experience at Orientation to Ministry, and your personal spiritual discernment has further clarified your call to ministry and your personal faith journey.**
- **What do you see is the mission of the church and what do you feel God has called you to do to achieve this mission?**
- **Share an example of how you have demonstrated fruitfulness and leadership in your ministry as a layperson. *(Example: How have you shown servant leadership? When did you start a Bible Study, lead a mission trip, served with the poor, or taught others about Christ. What is your evidence of fruitfulness?)***
- **During your time with your candidacy mentor, what did you learn about yourself and your future usefulness to Christ's mission field through the ministry of the United Methodist Church?**

Suggested Additional Questions

- Tell us about your personal strengths…your areas of growth.
- What are you most passionate about when it comes to your United Methodist identity?
- Tell us about your leadership experiences (inside and outside the church).
- Share about your devotional life. How are you growing spiritually?
- What are your goals for the year ahead?
- What do you see or think will be the most stressful aspects of ministry for you?

Action Required: Candidacy Recommendation

Please indicate the vote count below: ¶310.1e Individual written ballot, 2/3 majority required for recommendation to the Charge Conference or equivalent body

___ # votes to recommend the candidate.____ # votes to deny the request for recommendation.

Check one: The candidate is **approved** ☐ / **denied**. ☐

REPORT to dCOM by filling out LOCAL SPRC CANDIDATE RECOMMENTION FORM at

https://forms.gle/xjnk4y6A9r3A8u4W6

NOTE: Copies kept by S/PPRC and by secretary of the Charge Conference.