
THE CHURCH'S EXPECTATIONS OF ITS CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION

FAITH AFFIRMATIONS

- Is compelled by the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- Has a sense of having been called by God and the Church to ordained ministry
- Has a sense of vocational direction
- Is committed to the mission of the Church
- Can clearly articulate a personal theological position
- Can clearly articulate a theological understanding of ordination
- Can relate their understanding of ordained ministry to the ministry to which they have received a call or are seeking a call

CHURCH LOYALTY

- Is an active member of a local church of the United Church of Christ
- Is committed to service in and on behalf of the United Church of Christ
- Is committed to an ecumenical stance and efforts
- Is committed to active participation in the United Church of Christ beyond the local church (Association, Conference, national, etc.)
- Keeps informed about the issues and concerns facing the United Church of Christ and its various parts
- Is familiar with the publications and resources of the United Church of Christ
- Is committed to the up building of the whole people of God

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Has attained a general liberal arts education (bachelor's degree or its equivalent)
- Has graduated or will graduate from an approved theological seminary.
- Is able to relate the Christian faith to contemporary issues
- Has engaged in a disciplined study of and has acquired considerable knowledge in the following fields:
 - The Bible
 - Biblical interpretation
 - Christian education
 - Christian ethics
 - Church history
 - Contemporary culture
 - Evangelism and church growth

Ministry resources

Stewardship

Theology

United Church of Christ history, polity, practice,
and theological roots

Worship, sacraments, liturgy

Has acquired considerable skill in:

Administration

Counseling

Group dynamics

Interpersonal relationships

Listening and communicating

Organizing

Pastoral care

Planning and goal setting

Preaching and worship leadership

Teaching

Working with volunteers and volunteer institutions

Is prepared to lead the church as a community in mission

PERSONAL QUALITIES

Is able to acknowledge own limitations

Is accepting of diversity

Is adaptable

Has capacity for growth and development

Lives a Christian lifestyle

Is courageous

Has empathy

Has integrity

Is mature

Has an open and affirming style of relating to persons and ideas

Is resourceful

Has a sense of her or his identity

Has a sense of proportion

Has a sense of responsibility

Has vision