

## **New Hope Presbytery Committee on Preparation for Ministry Final Assessment Application**

Greetings from the New Hope Presbytery Committee on Preparation for Ministry. This package contains all of the information you need to apply for final assessment of the preparation for ministry process. Final assessment is the last step in the preparation for ministry process and is defined in the Book of Order (G-14.0450) as follows:

In the final year of theological education or when a candidate has satisfied all of the requirements of this section, and before the candidate has received a call, the committee on preparation for ministry of the candidate's presbytery shall conduct a final assessment of the candidate's readiness to begin ordained ministry. A summary of this assessment shall be reported to the presbytery and shall be transmitted to a calling presbytery when requested. The committee on preparation for ministry shall report to the presbytery when it has certified a candidate ready for examination for ordination, pending a call. This consultation shall focus on the outcomes of inquiry and candidacy and shall include each of the following requirements of certification:

- a. demonstration of readiness to begin ministry of the Word and Sacrament as required to fulfill the candidacy phase of preparation;
- b. presentation of a transcript showing satisfactory grades at a regionally accredited college or university, together with a diploma;
- c. presentation of a transcript from a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery, the transcript showing satisfactory grades, and presentation of a plan to complete the theological degree including Hebrew and Greek and exegesis of the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek texts;
- d. presentation of satisfactory grades together with the examination papers in the five areas covered by the Presbyteries' Cooperative Committee on Examinations for Candidates.

“Readiness to begin ministry” is defined in part by the *Preparation for Ministry in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Advisory Handbook* (p. 11) as follows:

1. presenting evidence of competence in the fields of theology, Bible, polity, and worship and Sacraments, ordinarily attested by completion of the requirements of G-14.0450; and evidence of ministerial skill attested in the supervised practice of ministry;
2. presenting evidence of readiness to participate in a calling presbytery's plan for transition and of plans for continued study and growth (G-11.0103n);
3. expressing theological views compatible with the confessional documents of the church;

4. expressing understanding of the meaning of the questions required for ordination (W-4.4003) informed by knowledge of the church in diverse settings;
5. revealing commitment to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament within the discipline of the Presbyterian Church (USA) with personal maturity, spiritual depth, and a capacity to respond to the needs of others, including colleagues in ministry;
6. presenting a written sermon, together with a description of the contemporary need to which it was addressed and an exegetical interpretation of the biblical material out of which the sermon arose. This sermon shall be preached before the calling presbytery or a committee thereof as a part of the appearance of the candidate.

Please remember that New Hope CPM requires you to have completed satisfactorily at least two field education units (one of Clinical Pastoral Education and one supervised internship in a PC (USA) congregation) as well as courses in Presbyterian polity, Reformed theology, and Reformed worship and sacraments.

When you come before CPM, you will be asked to:

- Preach a sermon before the committee, providing a written copy beforehand with supporting exegetical notes of the biblical text and a description of the contemporary need to which it was addressed.
- Submit a statement of faith on one page to include what you believe about God, the Trinity (statements on each person), the concept of grace, Holy Scripture, the sacraments, and the church.
- Submit a draft of your PIF.

You will need to submit your paperwork to the CPM at: Committee on Preparation for Ministry, The Presbytery of New Hope, 2309 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount NC 27804. Keep a copy of these forms for yourself. The forms must arrive at least 4 weeks prior to your scheduled interview. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your CPM shepherd or the CPM Moderator.

We celebrate with you and wish you grace and peace as you move to the final phase of the preparation for ministry process.

New Hope Presbytery Committee on Preparation for Ministry