

GUIDELINES FOR COM INTERVIEW WITH CANDIDATES

The candidate should receive an affirmative recommendation for membership in Denver Presbytery, commensurate with a call to a vacant pulpit or position if:

1. The candidate has at least the minimum skills required to perform the requirements of the proposed job description.
2. The candidate's theological "personality" is compatible with that of the local church as described in the CIF.
3. The candidate will support the programs and polity of the Presbytery of Denver and will work for peace and unity in the presbytery.
4. The candidate can affirm and carry out the ordination vows(W-4.4003), meet the standards for ordination described in (G.6.0106b & G6.0108a & b) and affirm the theological content articulated in Chapter Two of the Book of order.

Should the candidate declare a scruple to any of the items in D above the COM, will not approve the candidate but will present them and their scruple for examination on the floor of Presbytery. The Examination team will schedule an examination of no less than three hours. The first half of the examination will be in the areas of theology listed above and questions about their statement of faith. The second half of the examination will be in the areas of suitability for the call being considered and sharing details of life in Denver Presbytery. The candidate will receive in advance a copy of these guidelines at least a week before the conversation.

The following are suggested questions:

1. What is there about this position that excites and interests you?
2. What are your strongest abilities, experience and skills that will enable you to be effective in this position?
3. What are the major qualities you look for in your relationships with members of the congregation and/or your peers on the staff?
4. How do you prefer to work with others to achieve your objective?
5. Tell us about yourself: health, maturity and practical judgment, sense of humor, initiative.
6. We are interested in your leadership capabilities:
 1. Effectiveness as a preacher
 2. In evangelism
 3. Habits in parish calling
 4. Program effectiveness
 5. Administrative ability
 6. Style of working with others
 7. What large hopes and dreams have you for this congregation?
 8. Tell us about your past relationship with previous presbyteries.
 9. What role would you like to assume in Denver Presbytery?
 10. What 'motivates' you and 'keeps you going'?
 11. What areas of your ministry have been most exciting to you?

FAITH

1. What is your understanding of faith?
2. Where are you in your pilgrimage of faith?
3. Tell us about your faith in Jesus Christ and personal religious life (or How do you take care of your soul?)

THEOLOGY

1. What issues of theological reflection have been demanding your study and thinking recently? Explain some of them.
2. Where are you at the present time in your theological studies?
3. What in your opinion is the foremost theological issue facing the Church today?
4. In what way are the Confessions of our church important to you?
5. How do you define the essential tenants of the Reformed Faith?
6. The following questions deal with *the theological content* as described in chapter 2 of the Book of Order.

Trinity

Give us your understanding of the Trinity? How does it affect your practice of ministry?

Incarnation

Give us your understanding of the incarnation? How *does* it affect your ministry?

Authority of Scripture

Give us your views on the inspiration of the Scriptures,
Explain your understanding of the first chapters of Genesis
Give us your understanding of the Trinity.

Salvation (faith and grace)

Give us your views on redemption through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Sovereignty of God

How do you reconcile the sovereignty of God with the evil, pain and sorrow in the world?

Human tendency to idolatry: (Nature of Sin)

How do you understand sin?

Stewardship of all of life

How do you understand our role as stewards?

Covenantal Ecclesiology: (Christian Church and Community)

When we speak of the Church, what does it mean to you?

How understand the connectional nature of the Presbyterian Church?

What is your understanding of the Lord's Supper? What is its significance? How do you prepare children to come to the table?

Explain to us the meaning of the Sacrament of Baptism. Give us your views on Infant Baptism. Describe your practice of Baptism.

How do you understand the ordination vow to Peace, *purity and* unity.

How do you understand the ordination question around being a colleague in ministry?

Transformation of society

What do you see as the mission of the Church in the world?

Talk about your understanding of the church and it's relationship with society.

ORDINATION STANDARDS

1. Take a moment to read G6.0106b & G6.0108a.,b. Is there any way that you do not meet these standards? Do have any scruples to declare?
2. ***Chapter 2 of the Book of Order covers the Church and its Confessions.*** Read over that chapter. Is there any thing in this chapter that you can not affirm? Do have any scruples to declare?
3. Take a moment to read the Ordination Vows in ***W-4.4003***. Is there any vow that you can not affirm? Do have any scruples to declare?