

CLM Initial Certification Interview with dCOM (¶271)

Requirements prior to interview

See the Certified Lay Ministry Certification Application Process:

Requirements prior to interview

- 1) Must be a **certified lay speaker (completed 6 courses)** or a person with equivalent training (if not a certified lay servant, contact the Lay Servant Ministries.
- 2) Must complete **4 CLM Modules:** *Call and Covenant for Ministry, The Practice of Ministry, Organization for Ministry, and Connection for Ministry* –Discipleship Ministries
- 3) Made application in writing, including detailed statement as to reasons for application and evidence of how their service in the local church has demonstrated appreciation of the history, polity, doctrine, worship and liturgy of The United Methodist Church, to the district committee on ordained ministry.
- 4) Written recommendation of the district superintendent.
 - a. One cannot request the status of a certified lay minister unless the district superintendent is willing to assign the certified lay minister to a ministry position.
- 5) Biographical Form (Form 102)
- 6) Criminal Background Check
- 7) Training in Sexual Ethics
- 8) Written recommendation by the pastor of the local church where he/she holds membership.
- 9) Vote of the church council or charge conference (included in recommendation by the pastor).
- 10) Verification of completion of courses relevant to his/her assignment including preaching and exegesis, the care of the congregation, etc.

Initial questions

- 1) Tell us about your journey of faith.
- 2) Tell us about your leadership experiences in the local church.
- 3) Tell us how your service in your local church has demonstrated your appreciation of the history, polity, doctrine, worship and liturgy of The United Methodist Church. (This is a required question from the Book of Discipline.)

Personal growth and development

- 1) Share about your devotional life. How are you growing spiritually?
- 2) Tell us about your personal strengths...your areas of growth.
- 3) What have you read that has been helpful in your spiritual life?

Experiences in ministry

- 1) Share a conflict in which you have been involved and how you dealt with it.
- 2) Share a leadership experience you have had this year.
- 3) What is your understanding of the Mission of the Church?
- 4) What are your goals for the year ahead?
- 5) What excites you about ministry? What is your passion?
- 6) Who are the marginalized in your community? How are you leading your ministry setting to minister with them?
- 7) What spiritual disciplines do you practice?
- 8) What do you do to take care of yourself physically?

Suggested questions

- 1) What 2-3 characters in the Bible resonate with your own spiritual life/journey?
- 2) Talk about your family.
- 3) Talk about positive and negative relationships in your life.
- 4) What are the most stressful aspects of ministry for you?
- 5) What do you do to take care of yourself physically?

Additional questions

- 1) How is it with your soul?
- 2) How have you experienced grace?
- 3) What does your support system look like?
- 4) Who has been influential in your Christian journey? How have they influenced you?
- 5) Share a leadership experience you have had this year.

Action required by dCOM secretary:

Send minutes in a timely manner to dCOM members, the district office and the Office of Clergy Services.