



Community of Christ

RECOMMENDATION FOR ORDINATION

☐ Deacon ☐ Elder ☐ Priest ☐ Teacher

Send completed form to the Mission Center President.

*This call should be discussed only with proper administrative officers or others who will not share confidential information.
DO NOT APPROACH THE CANDIDATE ABOUT THE CALL UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED CLEARANCE TO DO SO.*

RECOMMEND INFORMATION

Name	Click or tap here to enter text.
Membership #	Click or tap here to enter text.
Name of Spouse (if applicable)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Address	Click or tap here to enter text.
Date and Location of Birth	Click or tap here to enter text.
Age Now	Click or tap here to enter text.

EDUCATION

☐ High School ☐ Four-year College ☐ Professional or Advanced Degree ☐ Other Training	Details: Click or tap here to enter text.
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CHURCH ACTIVITY

Mission Center/Nation	Click or tap here to enter text.
Congregation or Organized Group	Click or tap here to enter text.
Congregation or Group Roles Held	Click or tap here to enter text.
Registered Youth Worker	☐ Yes ☐ No

BAPTISM / CONFIRMATION

Date and Location	Click or tap here to enter text.
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PREVIOUS ORDINATIONS *(if applicable)*

Office, Date, Location

Click or tap here to enter text.

Office, Date, Location

Click or tap here to enter text.

Office, Date, Location

Click or tap here to enter text.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Does this individual demonstrate the principle of generosity by financially supporting local Mission Tithes?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Does this individual demonstrate the principle of generosity by financially supporting Worldwide Mission Tithes?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If no, provide further information below if there are unique circumstances

Click or tap here to enter text.

OCCUPATION *if retired, give former occupation*

Click or tap here to enter text.

COMMENTS ON CALLING

Testimony of pastor or recommending officer(s)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Further training needed for this office

☐ Major

☐ Moderate

☐ Minor

PRIESTHOOD STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

(to be completed by the initiating officer and used when the candidate is approached about the call)

What office specific gifts, skills and behaviors does the individual demonstrate and how will they be utilized in the congregation to support the mission of the congregation?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Describe how this individual reflects an understanding and support for the identity, mission, message and beliefs of Community of Christ.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Is there need in the congregation or in other church settings for this person's ministry?

Click or tap here to enter text.

How will this ordination affect the balance of ministry according to priesthood offices in the congregation?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Is this person affirmative in testimony and positive in support of all levels of church life: congregation, mission center, and World Church?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Does this individual model the covenant principles of faithful priesthood ministry? How does the individual reflect the values of diversity, worth of all persons and the other Enduring Principles of the church? Does the individual consistently model these behaviors across all aspect of life, including social media?
Click or tap here to enter text.
Does this candidate exhibit high standards of behavior, avoiding the abuse of chemical substances and refraining from tobacco?
Click or tap here to enter text.
If this person has been involved in any conduct which could reflect negatively on their ability to minister, have you counseled with the mission center president to determine if this should be a factor in processing this recommendation?
Click or tap here to enter text.
What will be the likely reaction of the people to this call?
Click or tap here to enter text.
Please list persons who could serve as a potential mentor to this person.
Click or tap here to enter text.

Signature	
<i>As pastor (or other appropriate administrative officer), I present this recommendation as my own personal conviction of this call.</i>	
Signature:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Official Capacity:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Congregation:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Date:	Click or tap here to enter text.

Approved by: Mission Center President	Signature: Click or tap here to enter text.	Date: Click or tap here to enter text.
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Information for the Pastor or Other Calling Officer

1. This form is to be completed by the administrative officer introducing the call of a person to priesthood. On completion, it should be forwarded to the mission center president for approval. You are not to approach the candidate about the call until the mission center president's approval has been gained, and you have been told to discuss the call with the candidate.
2. A sign of divine call is *required*. Having said this, it should be understood that your experience as introducing officer need not be dramatic or without question on your part. You are to use your best judgment—not only about the spiritual experience on the call, but on every aspect that might affect ordination. That is, you are to take a “holistic” approach to the leadings of the Holy Spirit. You will *not* be asked to “defend” your discernment of the call, simply to share it.
3. Confirmation of the call (from a second person in the congregation sensing the divine intent) is fitting but not compulsory.
4. If you sense the call, but are unclear about the office, contact the mission center president for further counsel.
5. As the introducing officer on this call, you are part of a team that will decide continuing forward to ordination. You should see yourself as a member of that team, rather than strictly the proponent of this particular call. Our system relies on the Holy Spirit working through the administrative officers of the church to detect the divinity of the call, to identify the candidate's strengths and weaknesses, the needs for ministry. The strength of this is in gaining several perspectives. It could be, on occasion, the mission center president will evaluate the situation differently, in which case this form will be returned to you for further consultation to occur. Your integrity is fulfilled by introducing the recommendation for ordination, in response to the light you have received.
6. There are a number of considerations for ordination: acceptance of the candidate's ministry by the people, personal standards to be met, the need for the candidate's ministry in a priesthood capacity, and ultimately the readiness of the candidate.
7. Personal standards should be met before ordination, as well as to retain a priesthood license. These standards are reflected in the Covenant Principles of Faithful Priesthood Ministry found at <https://cofchristhq.sharepoint.com/sites/PriesthoodMinistry/SitePages/Covenant-Principles-for-Faithful-Priesthood-Ministry.aspx>. Careful consideration of these principles is important when considering and discerning a call for the candidate.
8. If you have felt moved to process a call, but you know the candidate does not meet some of the priesthood standards, first give ministry to the person in the area of inadequacy, getting some response without revealing a specific call. If your conviction of the call persists, you should process the call with a note explaining the deficiency, ministry given, and the candidate's response. Nevertheless, a specific call should not be shared with the candidate before the approval by the mission center president. After approval by the mission center president, the candidate may be approached about the call and encouraged to meet the standards. If the candidate subsequently meets all standards and the congregation has approved ordination by a formal vote at a congregation conference, ordination can proceed. But a specific call should at no time be shared with the candidate *before* the approval from the mission center president.
9. *After* approval is given by the church, the candidate can be approached about the call. Spending time with the candidate reviewing the Covenant Principles of Faithful Priesthood Ministry is an important part of the discernment process for the candidate in accepting the call. Upholding these ethical principles and modeling the principle of generosity for both local and worldwide mission is important part of the candidate's ministry to be shared with the congregational community. If the candidate meets the expectations outlined in the Covenant Principles of Faithful Priesthood Ministry and the congregation has approved ordination by a formal vote of the congregation conference, the sacrament of ordination can occur after the completion of the priesthood preparation courses.
10. The candidate should prayerfully consider before accepting the call, realizing the commitment to training and the service the call requires. While the candidate may want personal confirmation of the call, this is not strictly necessary. You might encourage the candidate to weigh all considerations—the needs of the church for ministry that he or she can give; the time demands for preparation; and the skills, talents, and gifts the candidate has, with his or her sense of being called.
11. If the candidate has questions about the office, the standards, or the timing of ordination, you should feel free to contact the mission center president to help provide answers. You also can expect help from the mission center president to set up the Plan for Ministry.

Send this form to the mission center president.

Do not approach the candidate about the call until you have received clearance to do so.